Carnegie Library Station D. 22510

CARNEGIE BRANCH LIBRARY ST. JOSEPH, MO.

The Nation

VOL. XCI.—NO. 2357. THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 1910. PRICE TEN CENTS.

SOME FLASHES FROM

As brilliant a series of reviews as was ever accorded

AN AMERICAN NOVEL

"My candidate for the next Nobel Peace Prize would be Will Levington Comfort's ardent anti-war novel,

Routledge Rides Alone"

writes Edwin Markham in the *New York American.*

APART FROM THE BOOK'S THRILLING HUMANITY
"ROUTLEDGE RIDES ALONE"
IS

"A LOVE STORY of great beauty and power."—*Washington Star.*
"A GRIPPING STORY. The terrible intensity of the writer holds one chained to the book."—*Chicago Tribune.*
"A GALLOPING STORY. In the manner of its telling it is romance raised to a high power."—*New York Times.*
"A DARING STORY which stands out boldly among the fiction of the day."—*Philadelphia Press.*
"A RED-BLOODED STORY with the all-compelling motive of the great love of man for woman and woman for man."—*Buffalo Express.*
"A FIGHTING STORY. A half score of Men and one dazzling diamond of a Woman stand in the picture, not beside it."—*Detroit Journal.*
"A NOTABLE STORY, largely planned and nobly executed; splendid in action; alive with feeling."—*New York American.*
"A POWERFUL STORY. Comfort waited to master the biggest demand of the novel to-day. His love interest is first."—*Pittsburg Dispatch.*
"A DASHING STORY. A carnival of adventure, softened now and then by the presence of a lady."—*Leslie's Weekly.*
"A REMARKABLE STORY. One of the biggest and finest romances that has been written these many years."—*Chicago Journal.*
"AN IMPRESSIVE STORY; in fact one of the best stories of its kind that we have ever read."—*The Dial, Chicago.*

"A BIG STORY that fairly overwhelms the reader" is a part of the *Kansas City Star's* enthusiasm. The *Albany Times-Union* adds distinction with: "A STORY OF REAL GENIUS," and the *Twentieth Century Magazine* expresses the current approval thus: "One of the best works of fiction that has appeared in months."

A late addition to one of the greatest series of critiques ever accorded an American novel is from the *Chicago Inter-Ocean's* column and a half: "There's in fiction not a woman more truly lovable than the one woman of this book, Noreen. . . . From start to finish ROUTLEDGE RIDES INDEED; creeps, lags, or stumbles never once, good folk!"

FOURTH EDITION JUST READY. *CLOTH, $1.50.*

J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY PUBLISHERS PHILADELPHIA

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

The Nation.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL.

FOUNDED IN 1865.

[Entered at the New York City Post Office as second-class mail matter.]

The Nation is published and owned by the New York Evening Post Co. Oswald Garrison Villard, President; William J. Pattison, Treasurer; Paul Elmer More, Editor.

Three dollars per year in advance, postpaid, in any part of the United States or Mexico; to Canada $3.50, and to foreign countries comprised in the Postal Union $4.00.

Address THE NATION, Box 794, New York.
Publication Office, 20 Vesey Street.

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

THE WEEK 177

EDITORIAL ARTICLES:

President Taft's Letter 180
The New Test of Roosevelt 180
Army Desertions 181
British "Self-Depreciation" 182

SPECIAL ARTICLES:

Greece Revisited 183

CORRESPONDENCE:

Dr. Hall's Reply 185
Probabilism 186
Bibliography of Sumner 186
Medical Training 186

LITERATURE:

Evolutionary Socialism: A Criticism and Affirmation—The Class Struggle (Erfurt Program)—Twentieth Century Socialism: What it Is Not; What it Is; How it May Come—The Poverty of Philosophy—The Evolution of Property from Savagery to Civilization 186
Wild Oats 189
Blaze Derringer 189
A Circuit Rider's Wife 189
Rosamond the Second 189
The Religion of the Chinese 190
The Valley of Aosta 190
Fifty Years in Camp and Field 192

NOTES 192

SCIENCE:

Edelsteinkunde 194

DRAMA:

An Overworked Theory in Drama 195

ART:

Docent Service at the Boston Art Museum 197

FINANCE:

"Waiting Two Years" 198

BOOKS OF THE WEEK 199

* * * Copies of *The Nation* may be procured in Paris at Brentano's, 17 Avenue de l'Opéra; in London of B. F. Stevens & Brown, 4 Trafalgar Square, Charing Cross.

Educational.

THE DIVINITY SCHOOL OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY
Unsectarian University Privileges

Elective courses leading to the University degrees of S.T.B., A.M., and Ph.D. Students paying the full fee may take without extra charge appropriate courses offered in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and in Andover Theological Seminary. For particulars address The Dean of the Harvard Divinity School, Room B, Cambridge, Mass.

New York, Tarrytown, Box 760.
Hackley Lower School (Boys 9 to 13)
Situated on an elevation of 500 feet above the Hudson River, twenty-five miles from New York City. Modern facilities for thorough school training with every natural advantage for healthful home life. Prepares for Hackley Upper School. For catalog and illustrations, address
HAROLD F. AVERY, Director.

THE FISK TEACHERS' AGENCIES.
EVERETT O. FISK & CO., Proprietors.
2 A Park Street, Boston — 1505 Pa. Ave., Washington
156 Fifth Ave., New York — 414 Cen. Bld., Minneapolis
203 Mich. Ave., Chicago — 611 Swetland Bld., Portland
405 Cooper Bld., Denver — 238 Douglas Bld., Los Angeles
319 Hyde Bld., Spokane — 2142 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley
Send to any address above for Agency Manual.

AMERICAN professor, author, 8 years' exceptionally varied experience abroad, nine years teaching, seeks engagement (specialty, German; or English, French), as teacher or librarian, affording some leisure for literary work. Address AUTHOR, care The Nation.

ALBANY TEACHERS' AGENCY
Supplies schools of all grades with competent teachers. Assists teachers in obtaining positions. Send for Bulletin No. 20.
HARLAN P. FRENCH, 81 Chapel St., Albany, N.Y.

NEW YORK Day School, 174 Fulton St. Law School, Evening School, N. Y. City.
"Dwight Method" of instruction. LL.B. in two years. LL.M. in three years. High standards. Send for Catalogue. GEORGE CHASE, Dean.

BETHLEHEM PREPARATORY SCHOOL.
Bethlehem, Pa. Prepares for leading colleges. Catalogue. H. D. Foering, B.S., Principal.

READING REFERENCES FOR ENGLISH HISTORY
BY HENRY LEWIN CANNON.
Price $2.50.
Containing exact references to some two thousand of the most useful and accessible works on English history, this book is readily of great value to college students, instructors, librarians, and to the general reader.
GINN AND COMPANY
29 BEACON STREET, BOSTON.

The Mechanics of Writing
By EDWIN C. WOOLLEY, Department of English, University of Wisconsin, author of a *Handbook of Composition.*
A book that will prove invaluable to the young author, the English teacher, the schoolgirl, the stenographer, the clerk, the freshman, the proof-reader. It teaches how to write, spell, abbreviate, compound, and divide words, capitalize, italicize, punctuate, and paragraph.
Cloth. 427 pages. Price, $1.00.
D. C. HEATH & CO., Publishers
BOSTON NEW YORK CHICAGO

AMERICANS: An Impression
By Alexander Francis.

Notice.

NOTICE.—THE CITY NATIONAL BANK, located at WYMORE, in the STATE OF NEBRASKA, is closing its affairs.
All noteholders and other creditors of the association are therefore hereby notified to present the notes and other claims for payment.
J. S. JONES, Cashier.
Dated July 7th, 1910.

The Jewish Quarterly Review
A publication devoted to Jewish history, literature, philology, archaeology and cognate subjects. Published by the Dropsie College for Hebrew and Cognate Learning, York Street near Broad, Philadelphia, under the editorship of Cyrus Adler, President of the College, and S. Schechter, President of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Subscription, Three Dollars per annum.

Handy Volume Classics
Used by schools and colleges everywhere. 155 vols., pocket size. List prices, cloth, 35c. per vol.; limp leather, 75c. per vol. (Special prices to schools and colleges.)
SEND FOR CATALOGUE.
Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York

The only biography of the founder of modern Socialism, **KARL MARX: HIS LIFE AND WORK,** by John Spargo, $2.50 net; $2.70 carriage paid.
B. W. HUEBSCH, 225 Fifth avenue, NEW YORK

Do you know the Beacon Biographies?
The only *authoritative* lives of twenty-nine eminent Americans that are at the same time *brief.* Each volume 50 cents net; by mail, 54 cents.
Send for a descriptive pamphlet.
Small, Maynard & Co., 21 Beacon St., Boston

The Channel Islands of California
By CHARLES F. HOLDER, F.L.S.
"Notable for the wealth of its information and the plenitude of its pictures."
—*San Francisco Argonaut.*
Profusely illustrated. Cr. 8vo, $2.00 net.
A. C. McCLURG & CO., CHICAGO

REMINISCENCES OF A K. C.
By THOMAS EDWARD CRISPE.
"A wealth of anecdote" (*Nation*) of famous judges, actors and literary folk of the Victorian Era.
Cloth, $3.50 net; postpaid, $3.66.
LITTLE, BROWN & CO., PUBLISHERS, BOSTON

INSPIRING AND HELPFUL BOOKS
WHY WORRY? and **THOSE NERVES!**
By GEORGE L. WALTON, M.D. Cloth, $1 net, each.
J. B. LIPPINCOTT CO., Philadelphia.

BOOKS—All out of print books supplied, no matter on what subject; write me, stating books wanted; I can get you any book ever published; when in England, call and inspect my stock of 50,000 rare books. BAKER'S GREAT BOOKSHOP, John Bright St., Birmingham, England.

FOREIGN BOOKS | *Send for catalogue.* SCHOENHOF BOOK CO. 128 Tremont Street, BOSTON, MASS. | **TAUCHNITZ BRITISH AUTHORS**

SAMPLE COPIES OF
THE NATION
Will be sent to any address for three weeks WITHOUT CHARGE.
ADDRESS
THE NATION, 20 Vesey Street, N. Y.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

MOFFAT, YARD & COMPANY

BOOKS OF IMPORTANCE

MOFFAT, YARD & COMPANY

AMERICAN PROBLEMS:

FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF A PSYCHOLOGIST

By HUGO MÜNSTERBERG

Professor of Psychology in Harvard University.

8vo. $1.60 *net*. *By mail*, $1.75.

"Here is a learned professor, with the weight of German culture behind him, playing ball with the questions of the hour, and showing a keenness of wit and comprehension, and withal a not wholly guileless knowledge of men and things, as witness his handling of Mme. Palladino, which makes one wonder whether he is a philosopher after all or whether by miracle he has taken unto himself the shrewdness of the Yankee deacon."—*Chicago Evening Post.*

LIFE AND ART OF RICHARD MANSFIELD

WITH SELECTIONS FROM HIS LETTERS

By WILLIAM WINTER

Fully illustrated. Large 8vo. 2 *vols.* $6.00 *net. Carriage paid*, $6.40.

"The most notable addition to contemporary theatrical literature that has been made for a long time, fascinating as a bit of illuminative biography, complete and manifestly authoritative in its statement of facts."—*Nation.*

FORTUNE

By J. C. SNAITH

Author of "Araminta," "Broke of Covenden," etc.

12*mo*. $1.50.

A romantic tale of Spain in the 15th Century.

"An egotist and braggart who is brave and of a marvellous skill with the sword sufficient to back up his words with his deeds, Sir Richard leads us and his companions a mighty chase of abundant excitement."—*Boston Transcript.*

ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

By ISADOR H. CORIAT, M.D.

Co-author of "Religion and Medicine."

Illustrated, 8vo. $2.00 *net. By mail*, $2.20.

"The chapters on 'Sleep,' 'Dreams,' 'Analysis of Mental Life,' 'Losses of Memory,' 'The Splitting of a Personality,' and 'Hysteria' will be of special interest to the general reader. . . . . It makes interesting reading and it is highly suggestive throughout."—*Charleston News and Courier.*

FALL BOOKS NOW READY

A GREAT STUDY IN FICTION OF SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

THE HOUSE OF BONDAGE

By REGINALD WRIGHT KAUFFMAN

12*mo*. $1.35 *net. By mail*, $1.47.

This is the most powerful presentation of the social problem in a great city that has appeared in print. In addition it is a gripping story, moving, dramatic, elemental. The author has contrasted the fine, pure story of Herman and Katie with poor Mary's tragic fate in a striking manner. His characters live because they are drawn from real life—the life of this great city, the life of to-day. This story is vital and pregnant with meaning for every man and woman who lives in the world.

THE STORY OF CHANTECLER

A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF ROSTAND'S PLAY

By MARCO F. LIBERMA

Professor of Romance Languages in Cincinnati University.

Illustrated with drawings from the original performances.
12*mo*. 75 *cents net. By mail*, 82 *cents.*

A brilliant, sympathetic, extremely graphic account of Rostand's celebrated play, dealing with the interesting history of its conception, writing and first performances, together with a description of the story and a critical analysis of it as a work of dramatic and literary art as well as a stage performance. It is exactly the book that everybody needs just now.

HOW TO KEEP FIT

By ALFRED T. SCHOFIELD, M.D., M.R.C.S.

Author of "Nervousness," etc.

Small 16*mo*. 75 *cents net. By mail*, 82 *cents.*

The true path of health outlined by one of the soundest and most widely known writers on sound living in the world to-day.

THE HARD ROCK MAN

By FREDERICK R. BECHDOLT

12*mo*. $1.00 *net. By mail*, $1.10.

A powerful novel of Western life and love by the part author of "9009," the hero of which is a laborer in a railroad construction camp.

PSYCHE SLEEPS, AND OTHER POEMS

By ALIDA CHANDLER EMMET

12*mo*. $1.25 *net. By mail*, $1.35.

Poetry of imagination and originality.

TWO YEARS IN A TENT

By FAITH WHITNEY

The Preface by SAMUEL McCOMB, M.A., D.D.

50 *cents net. By mail*, 55 *cents.*

"The writer of this little book for nervous invalids not only gives due emphasis to the benefit of a return to nature, but shows the value of the psychic element of joyous humor."

READY NEXT WEEK

By WILLIAM WINTER

Author of "Life and Art of Richard Mansfield," "Old Friends," etc.

SHAKESPEARE'S ENGLAND

New, Revised, and Definitive Edition, with many new illustrations.
Large 8vo. $3.00 *net. By mail*, $3.40.

This superb volume, with its many revisions and amplifications, its exquisite new type, its many exquisite illustrations, has all the beauty and attractiveness of a wholly new work. Depicting, "not so much the England of fact as the England created and hallowed by the spirit of her poetry, of which Shakespeare is the soul," it is much more truly to-day, with its many changes, what years ago it was accepted for on both sides the sea, the "best volume of English travel that has ever appeared."

READY IN OCTOBER

LIFE AND LETTERS OF EDMUND CLARENCE STEDMAN

By LAURA STEDMAN.

MOFFAT, YARD & COMPANY - NEW YORK

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

LONGMANS, GREEN, & CO.'S LIST

WORKS BY

WILLIAM JAMES, LL.D.

Late Professor in Harvard University

THE WILL TO BELIEVE, and Other Essays in Popular Philosophy. Crown 8vo. $2.00.

THE VARIETIES OF RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE. Being the Gifford Lectures on Natural Religion delivered at Edinburgh in 1901–1902. 8vo. Net $3.20. By mail, $3.40.

A PLURALISTIC UNIVERSE. Lectures on the Hibbert Foundation delivered at Oxford, 1908. 8vo. Net, $1.50. By mail, $1.62.

PRAGMATISM: A New Name for Some Old Ways of Thinking. 8vo. Net, $1.25. By mail, $1.38.

THE MEANING OF TRUTH: A sequel to "Pragmatism." 8vo. Net, $1.25. By mail, $1.38.

The chapter on "Truth," being the strategic pivot of Professor James's recent book entitled "Pragmatism," has been made the target of severest critical attack. The wildness of most of the criticisms, and their failure to duly comprehend the author's thesis, have convinced him that the latter is as profoundly novel as it seems to him important. He, therefore, brings together in the present volume, in order to shed more light upon the subject, all that he has ever written on the theory of knowledge, including the article on the Function of Cognition, which appeared in 1884, all his recenter polemic and expository contributions, and some replies to criticisms printed here for the first time. The volume should be taken as a full and definite expression of the pragmatist "epistomology," so far as Mr. James's share in it goes.

ESSAYS PHILOSOPHICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL. In Honor of William James, Professor in Harvard University. By his Colleagues at Columbia University. With a Portrait in Photogravure. 8vo. Net $3.00. By mail, $3.18.

COLUMBIA STUDIES IN HISTORY, ECONOMICS AND PUBLIC LAW

New Volumes Just Published

Vol. XXXVII, No. 2, LEGAL DEVELOPMENT IN COLONIAL MASSACHUSETTS, 1630-1686.

By CHARLES J. HILKEY, Ph.D., Sometime University Fellow in Constitutional Law. Price, $1.25.

Vol. 37, comprising monographs Nos. 1, 2, and 3. Complete. Cloth. Price, $4.50.

Vol. XXXVIII, No. 1, THE PUBLIC DOMAIN AND DEMOCRACY, A Study of Social, Economic and Political Problems in the United States in Relation to Western Development.

By ROBERT TUDOR HILL, Ph.D., Sometime University Fellow in Sociology. Price, $2.00.

Vol, XXXVIII, No. 2, ORGANISMIC THEORIES OF THE STATE, Nineteenth Century Interpretations of the State as Organism or as Person.

By F. W. COKER, Ph.D., Instructor in Politics, Princeton University, Sometime Fellow in Political Philosophy. Columbia University. Price, $1.50.

Vol. 38, comprising monographs Nos. 1 and 2. Complete. Cloth. Price, $3.50.

Vol. XXXIX, No. 1, THE MAKING OF THE BALKAN STATES.

By WILLIAM SMITH MURRAY, Ph.D. Price, $1.50.

LONGMANS, GREEN, & CO., 4th Avenue & 30th St., New York

DR. ELIOT'S VIEW OF HAPPINESS

A BOOK OF CHARMING ESSAYS IN WHICH ARE PICTURED SOME OF THE LASTING PLEASURES OF LIFE

The Durable Satisfactions of Life

By CHARLES W. ELIOT

12mo, Cloth, 198 pages. $1.00 net; by mail, $1.10

"The book is one of wonderfully sane and sweet philosophy, a book that ought to be read by every man or woman who is discontented, unhappy, rebellious against the limitations of life. It is eminently practical, and its sturdy, simple reasoning, bent on finding the treasures of the daily, dusty, common life, will be wholesome medicine for those who have come to put too much stress upon the relation of material possessions to happiness."—*N. Y. Times.*

THOMAS Y. CROWELL & COMPANY

428 WEST BROADWAY, NEW YORK

WILLIAM J. TUCKER'S

PERSONAL POWER

"Vigorous and wholesome talks to college men."—*Kansas City Star.*

"A stimulating volume."—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

A. S. CLARK, Peekskill, N. Y., offers a catalogue of 590 Pamphlets—free.

SEPTEMBER EIGHT

The Nation

WILL PUBLISH

An Educational Number

The leading article will be by Prof. W. P. Trent on Present Day Education.

Recent text-books will be reviewed.

4,000 extra copies will be mailed to teachers in schools and colleges.

Usual rates for advertising.

THE TEMPLE CLASSICS

233 VOLUMES

GENERAL EDITOR: ISRAEL GOLLANCZ, M.A.

Each volume contains a photogravure frontispiece, a decorative title-page, and a ribbon bookmark; where advisable, editorial appendices and marginalia, also.

PRICES: In cloth, each volume 45 cts. Net In limp leather each volume 65 cts. Net

E. P. DUTTON & COMPANY

31 WEST 23D STREET, NEW YORK.

Read L. M. Montgomery's New Book

KILMENY OF THE ORCHARD

By the author of

"ANNE of GREEN GABLES" (23d Printing)

and

"ANNE OF AVONLEA" (12th Printing)

STENOGRAPHER

GEO. B. COCK

FRANKLIN BANK BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1910.

The Week.

President Taft's announced determination to follow hereafter a policy of "hands off," as respects New York politics, is perhaps only another way of saying that he means to leave the Republicans of this State to stew in their own juice. Presidential non-intervention in such matters ought, of course, to be the rule, though Roosevelt in the White House did not exactly go on that principle. It is probable that Mr. Taft would have made no public utterance had not his position been so grossly misrepresented. Beverly felt that it simply had to do something to put an end to the rumors at Oyster Bay. But as the case stands to-day, there will be hands enough on if the President keeps his off. The Republican party in New York has the desired multitude of counsellors, even if there be no wisdom in them, and though they are fighting each other rather than the Democrats. Every Republican leader has his pet scheme, but it is a scheme to put another leader in a hole or to knife the ticket. All the signs at present point to a reproduction in 1910 of the New York Republican tragedy of 1882—and that, it will be remembered, was largely due to Presidential interference.

It is partly a tribute to the growth of the direct-primary movement, partly a fear of popular wrath and a desire to have something like a real endorsement, which leads New Jersey candidates for the United States Senatorship to file petitions in order to get their names on the ballot in the primary of September 13. The law under which this may be done is an old one that has been practically a dead letter, but it has been revived for this political crisis. Three Republicans and two Democrats have thus formally recorded their Senatorial ambitions. Among the former the name of Senator Kean does not appear. The others say that they wish to leave the Senatorship to the people; Kean says that he prefers to leave it to the Legislature. His plan, in other words, is the convenient old one of first binding to himself the candidates for the Legislature by helping them to meet their election expenses and then duly exacting payment after they are in office.

Mayor Gaynor's article in the *Century* on city government contains many of his well-known views—especially his belief in the absolute necessity of non-partisanship in municipal elections—and has some shrewd things to say about a "business" administration of city affairs. There is undeniable force in his contention that the ordinary merchant may be a failure as a Mayor if he thinks that all that is necessary is to take with him into office the ideas and methods which he has acquired and practised in commerce. As Mr. Gaynor points out, the city's "business" is a business regulated by law, and a municipal administration is a "complex legal and political machine." To make it operate well, mere yardstick and counting-house notions will not suffice. But while this is true, and while we ought to be glad whenever a Mayor has a good knowledge of the law as well as executive ability, the thing ought not to be pressed so far as to make eligible only men with such a combination of qualities. But Mr. Gaynor is irrefragable in what he says about making the only standard of appointment to municipal offices honesty and efficiency, and getting rid of that prolific source of corrupt city politics, "the control of the government or the conduct of officials by outside bosses or organizations."

The Adirondack land inquiry at Albany continues to reveal the unexpected in New York's Republican rulers. Just now it is their love of nature. To commune up there with nature—that is the way they draw their inspiration for wise leadership. They flock to those rare "camps," carefully surrounded by State lands to remind their owners, even in the solitudes, of the call to public service. Timothy Woodruff, Frank H. Platt, son of the Senator, ex-Congressman Louis W. Emerson, Frank D. Bell, Special Counsel to the Forest, Fish, and Game Commissioner, ex-Senator Allds, Congressmen Malby and Millington, Daniel F. Strobel of the Republican State Committee—these and apparently many others heard the call of the wild in one form or another, as attorneys in land sales, or members of speculating firms and syndicates, or as owners of summer homes. Generous Mr. Woodruff paid $12,000 for 1,000 valuable acres; the State paid $167,000 for 25,000 acres first offered to it at $127,000. The Land Purchasing Board, of which Mr. Woodruff was a member, simply had to make the owners a present of $40,000 of State money. Mr. Strobel appears as an habitual trespasser on State lands, and Mr. Bell became special counsel immediately after a sale to the State of lands worth $35,000.

Precisely because conservation has been accepted as a vital problem that will suffer neither slighting nor delay, there is need of not falling into the national habit of going at a new problem with a rush and a hurrah. Every costly mistake that may be made is sure to be seized upon by enemies of the new order. What, for instance, will be the natural effect of the figures published by the Chicago *Evening Post*, concerning thriftlessness and incapacity in the reclamation service? A board of army engineers, now engaged in a study of various reclamation projects in the West and Northwest, has brought to light facts tending to show that more than six million dollars of government money have been sunk in useless or unproductive schemes. The Truckee-Carson project in Nevada is responsible for nearly four millions of the total. Here, as elsewhere, there appears to have been extraordinary lack of foresight or preparation. One plan, on the Canadian border, has been abandoned because it was found that the Canadian farmers were profiting by the new water supply, instead of the American farmers. Elsewhere the construction cost has been so high as to make water prices prohibitive. The conservation of the people's money is one of the elements in the problem that must never be lost sight of.

Senator Dick of Ohio is sadly crying out: "Lord, how are they increased that trouble me!" The latest charge against

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

him, which he hotly denies, is that he has played in Ohio the rôle of Vice-President Sherman in New York—that is, that he misinterpreted or misrepresented the views of President Taft concerning the conduct of the State campaign. The facts will doubtless come out, for as the controversy rages there will be a demand for the publication of the letter which the President actually wrote. But without this new embarrassment, Senator Dick was having troubles enough. His unpopularity seems to be steadily growing, and his candidacy for reëlection is felt to be a drag on the ticket. Although he got a perfunctory endorsement in the primary—merely of the nature of a recommendation, and "snap" at that—the State Convention did not dare commit itself to him, and even if the Republicans were to carry the Legislature, his return to the Senate would be highly improbable. Fresh accusations of financial irregularities, when he was a State officer, have just been publicly made against him by Mr. Barber, a sheriff is looking for property of his on which to levy for a debt, and altogether Dick is justified in feeling that his lot is not a happy one.

In the death of William James the country has lost one of its most stimulating minds. A man of wide attainments and no mean thinker himself, his most fruitful work has lain in provoking others to think. Not simply those students of his whom he stirred by immediate personal contact, but thousands of readers of his books and discussions did he arouse and quicken and shake out of routine acceptance of routine ideas. This he was able to do partly through his rare gifts of exposition and his vivid style. He actually made philosophy racy and piquant. Nor was this merely a flare of academic sensationalism and flippancy. It was rather the method of sparks struck off an original mind to kindle others; the truth seen picturesquely and presented with varied freshness. And always behind the attractive style, pricking on the interest and challenging thought, there stood the sincere spirit of the man, devoted to inquiry, resolutely applying the scientific method. Professor James wonderfully preserved, even in advancing years, the open mind. There was never audible in him that sort of click which Emerson observed in English bishops, a sign that the mind was shut and would allow no more questions to be asked. Sometimes we see men whose minds are open in the sense that everything flows through them and leaves nothing behind. That could not be said of William James. He had his body of ascertained truth and his deep convictions; but that did not prevent him from admitting that we must continually search and test the foundations of all knowledge and all belief. His death will bring a sense of personal loss to many who never looked upon his face. To few men has it ever been given to radiate so much intellectual force in a whole generation.

From the figures for urban population that have already been published, it seems certain that Detroit will have supplied the sensation of the 1910 census. With an increase of 63 per cent. within the decade, that city has moved forward from thirteenth place in the list of cities to eighth place, or possibly seventh. In 1900, Detroit was only by a few hundreds ahead of Milwaukee. In 1910, it had not only left Milwaukee far behind, but had passed New Orleans, Pittsburgh—that synonym of hustle and modernism—Cincinnati, San Francisco, and Buffalo. The city of Cleveland will have to show an increase of 22 per cent. over 1900 to keep its hold on seventh place. St. Louis is known to have made no such rapid increase as Detroit. And in the nature of things it is impossible that either New York, Chicago, or Philadelphia can even approximate this remarkable 63 per cent.

The plan which Senator Cummins has put forward for a nation-wide primary to nominate candidates for President and Vice-President is spoken of by the Iowa Senator as a "natural development" in the tendency to give the people a more direct voice in the selection of candidates, but it is evident that even he does not believe the time is yet ripe for it. A part of the evil which he strikes at could be overcome by party rules. Senator Cummins speaks with emphasis of the "humiliating" and "revolting" disclosures made in Republican national conventions in connection with the contests of seats for delegates from the Southern States, and dwells upon the anomaly of giving representation on the basis of population, not of party votes actually cast. But this has long been recognized as a grievance, and could be met by such a change in the party regulations as has often been urged. Mr. Cummins talks of a law to supervise national conventions, if, as he surmises, his project for a national primary does not find favor. Yet when a remedy lies so clearly within the control of the members and managers of a party, there seems little reason for invoking the power of the law. But Senator Cummins is not afraid of over-legislation.

Mr. William A. Larned's winning of the tennis championship for the fourth time successively is really a remarkable performance from many points of view. A man of active business, Mr. Larned is now over forty years of age, and thus demonstrates, as have many English players, that hard tennis may be played in middle life and indeed much beyond that. Mr. Larned's secret is keeping himself in perfect physical condition. Indubitably, as champion, he enjoys an advantage in that he does not have to play through a hard ten days' tournament like the challenger. He has the opportunity, moreover, to watch the play of the men whom he is likely to meet, while they are fighting their way through round after round. But after his service with the Rough Riders, Mr. Larned, who had twice been champion before 1898, fought his way through with ease. He has now been six times champion, and as an exponent not merely of a wonderful sport, but of the best kind of sportsmanship, no one will grudge him his remarkable success.

The announcement that two spectators who were injured by an aeroplane falling upon them during the Asbury Park aviation meet have begun suits for heavy damages shows that the courts will soon have new and perplexing legal questions to decide. Must the plaintiffs prove criminal negligence? Is the burden of proof upon them? And can they cite Curtiss and the Wrights as expert witnesses, although they were not spectators of the accident? Can the aviator charge the sudden dropping of the wind to an act of Providence and thus avoid responsibility?

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Did the injured men assume a well-known risk on entering the aviation field which would deprive them of any real basis for suit? Is the owner of the ground over which the flight occurred *particeps criminis?* Can the aviator be punished for a defect of his engine? These and other questions will give learned judges much concern before long.

There is no possibility in 70 per cent. of the counties of the State [Virginia] for a negro to procure in the public schools sufficient training in subject-matter to enable her to pass a creditable examination for a first-grade certificate. Several of the State school examiners have estimated for me that in seven-tenths of the negro elementary schools there is really *no* sound teaching, owing to the incompetency of the teachers.

Thus writes Prof. Bruce Payne of the University of Virginia in the *Southern Workman.* Professor Payne says further that before there can be real instruction in the colored schools of Virginia, "a majority of the present teachers" must be dispensed with. This applies even more truly in the more Southern States. But where does it leave those Southerners, like Thomas Nelson Page, who declare that the negro has been educated and has demonstrated his total unfitness to benefit by school training? Fortunately, things are bound to improve. These schools will be made more than mere apologies for institutions of learning. As Professor Payne puts it:

There are enough intelligent, brave, and self-sacrificing men and women among the colored people in this State to accomplish the task. There are enough Christian men and women among the white people who are willing to assist in the doing. When these two groups of consecrated people are once touched by the mute appeal of the more needy we shall see the beginning.

The Admiralty's refusal to deny or affirm the recurring report that a gas-engine battleship is near at hand, is probably another sign that the experiments it has long been making are meeting with success. Fully a year ago it became known that an old gunboat had been fitted up with a gas engine. Since that time such strides have been made in Germany that the Hamburg-American Line has ordered a 9,000-ton vessel fitted up with the Diesel gas engine. If this is worth trying in the merchant marine, we may be certain that the Admiralty, leading as it does the entire naval world, will not be far behind. It is, of course, not a question of adopting the gasolene engine of the familiar power-boat type. That has so demonstrated its usefulness and economy for all craft up to 120 feet that a steam vessel under that length is becoming a rarity. Beyond that size, however, constructors have not yet gone, because the cost of the fuel rapidly approaches that of coal and for round-the-world cruising coal is in one sense the more desirable, because oftener available. The engine upon which the British engineers are at work is one propelled by gas generated on board ship by a small consumption of coal. There is no question whatever that the day this engine is perfected, the Dreadnoughts and Super-Dreadnoughts will be nearly as out-of-date as were the wooden ships the day the Merrimac entered Hampton Roads.

The Kaiser's pronouncements on literature and art are not so frequent as they used to be. When an outraged nation imposed silence on William II after that famous "calculated indiscretion," it seems to have induced a state of imperial reticence which extended to matters other than political. The habits of a lifetime, however, are hard to break; the Kaiser is by nature hospitable, and so a recent conversation between William II and a Scandinavian woman writer whom he received on board his yacht has been rather widely commented upon in the German press. To his guest the Emperor expressed his satisfaction at what he believed to be a decline in the tide of arch-realism in literature and art. He welcomed Sudermann's return from the depressing sordidness of "Das Hohe Lied" to the idyllicism of the "Strandkinder," his latest work. He found that of the plays given in Berlin before working-class audiences the most popular was Kleist's romantic "Prinz Friedrich von Homburg." And the Emperor ventured the opinion that a play like Gorky's "Abyss" would have left the same audiences puzzled and bored. This view has just enough of the Imperial and mediæval tone to make it characteristic of the Kaiser, though not necessarily to make it false. As between the Kaiser and the advocates of the ultra-modern naturalism for which Young Germany has gone in with a vengeance, there is no doubt that the Kaiser is in the right.

Another Socialist victory is reported from Germany, where bye-elections to the Reichstag within the last two years have been practically synonymous with Socialists elected. This time, in a district that has always been represented by a Conservative, the Socialist candidate polled nearly twice as many votes as all the other candidates combined. Thus the Socialists' majorities not only continue, but continue growing in size. The general election of 1906 left them with 43 seats in the Reichstag; they have now climbed to 51. This is still far from the 81 seats which they held in the preceding Reichstag, but there are few people who doubt that if a general election were held to-day, the Socialist strength would soar to a new record. An absolute Socialist majority in the next Reichstag is not within the realm of probability, but a combined Socialist, Liberal, and Radical majority is more than probable. Will such a coalition be brought about? The Liberals have for some time been out of the Government fold, slighted and disillusioned; they regard the peril of Socialism as less than that of reaction.

How peace in Latin America may become more secure with the growth of foreign commercial interests in those countries, has been succinctly stated by Charles M. Pepper, Commercial Adviser to the Department of State, in the latest pamphlet of the American Association for International Conciliation. Europe's investments in South America approximate $3,500,000,000, and constitute a vast peace fund. Our share of the South American trade, about $300,000,000 annually, is not large, as compared with the total, but it is growing and with it a better understanding between the parties concerned. "Our commercial policy," declares Mr. Pepper, "is conciliatory, and whatever tends to increase commerce is an additional means of conciliation." No one will take issue with the intent of this sentence, but it is not happily phrased. "Whatever tends to increase commerce," will certainly not bring conciliation if the "whatever" comes in the shape of shotgun diplomacy and dollar diplomacy. If it is true that international amity follows in the path of international trade, it is also true that friendly relations between two countries are an excellent promoter of trade.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

PRESIDENT TAFT'S LETTER.

President Taft's letter to the Chairman of the Republican Congressional Committee is not, it must be confessed, of a sort to raise the hopes of a despondent and apprehensive party. There is nothing "ringing" about it. It has not a single touch of the 'Ercles vein—no shouts, no loud summons to battle, no shrill defiance of the enemy. The document is long and not the easiest of summer reading. It is also frankly partisan, being nothing less than the President's argument for an endorsement of his Administration, and for the election of a Republican House of Representatives next November. Nevertheless, the letter deserves serious attention, not simply because it comes from the President, but because it is a serious discussion and contains a serious programme.

Foremost in the letter stands Mr. Taft's proposal for a speedy re-opening of the tariff question. This must have required courage and firmness on his part, for it is inconceivable that the high-and-dry protectionists of his party could have consented to what they would doubtless call this playing with dynamite. And it must be set down as a notable event that a Republican President goes so far as Mr. Taft now does in admitting that the spreading discontent with the tariff is justified—justified as respects the way in which the tariff bill was log-rolled into shape, and as respects many of the excessive and burdensome duties which it contains. There is no more of the former talk about the Aldrich-Payne law being the best ever enacted by the Republican party, or of appeals to rest and be thankful. The impatient voice of the West has made itself heard at Beverly, and a Republican President has been forced anxiously to consider how to remove Republican tariff grievances.

His plan is explicit and logical and could be made feasible, so far as it goes, if the Republicans in Congress really desired to make it so. Mr. Taft would attack the schedules in detail. He would get from the experts of his tariff board a complete and scientific investigation into the need and the incidence of any given set of tariff taxes, and then, declares Mr. Taft, "I expect to bring the matter to the attention of Congress with a view to its amendment of the tariff in that particular." In order to facilitate such piecemeal revision, he hopes that Congress will adopt a rule shutting out all amendments to a proposed change in one schedule, designed to add changes in others. It must be admitted that if a Republican Congress truly wished to move forward in a swift and business-like way to correct one tariff injustice after another, President Taft has shown how the thing could be done. But it would mean a political revolution.

In this connection, one part of President Taft's argument against the election of a Democratic House shows, rather amusingly, how little attention he has given to the political history of the tariff. He declares that a Republican majority is essential to the success of the method of revision schedule by schedule, since the Democrats would be opposed to any step of that kind. We fear that the President must have forgotten what happened in 1892. In that year a Democratic House did precisely what Mr. Taft now asserts that only a Republican House can be depended upon to do—namely, it passed several bills repealing or amending separate clauses of the tariff. By a large majority it voted to put binder twine on the free list; to remove all duties from cotton bagging; to abolish the protective rates on wool and woollen goods. This last ought especially to interest Mr. Taft, as he has declared that the woollen schedules of the Aldrich-Payne bill are "indefensible."

But what became of those bills to revise piecemeal? They were contumeliously rejected by the Republican Senate. Furthermore, they were covered with ridicule by protectionist orators and the protectionist press. The whole thing was just a piece of Democratic ignorance and folly. It was the policy of pin-pricks. The tariff was a beautiful artistic creation, from which you could not remove one part without destroying the whole. Speaking more frankly and brutally, the spokesmen of protected interests said that they had secured their favors as a matter of bargaining with others, and would not yield a stiver of what they had got without upsetting the entire division of the spoils. A favorite simile was that of conceiving a protective tariff as an "arch," from which you could not take out one stone without pulling all down in ruin. These notions will inevitably return to plague Mr. Taft if he sets about doing what all his party laughed at the Democrats for their trying to do, and he will be accused of taking up with a discredited Democratic plan. That ought not to deter him, and we do not imagine that it will; but it does put in a queer light his present contention that no help in tariff revision could be expected from a Democratic House.

For the rest, the President's letter is a sober account of what his party and his Administration have been able to accomplish in keeping the pledges made two years ago. His review of the legislation enacted cannot be challenged as unfair; and he adds to it a list of the promises which are yet to be fulfilled, and which he says a Republican Congress will be able and willing to fulfil. How great the immediate political effect of this will be, it is impossible to say with confidence. Except for his plan for further tariff revision, for which the President should have praise, he simply tells people "that which you all do know." That its inclusion in the Republican "campaign-book" will win thousands of votes, we greatly doubt. The old query, "Who reads an American book?" has been answered; but to the question, "Who reads a campaign-book?" we have never seen a satisfactory reply.

THE NEW TEST OF ROOSEVELT.

The speaking tour on which Mr. Roosevelt has now set out will furnish a test of his quality more searching, in some respects, than any to which he has ever submitted. We do not refer to the question of his personal bearing. His standards of good taste have become fixed; the country knows what they are, and does not expect him to alter them. He will doubtless go on doing things which in another man we should call shockingly indelicate or vainglorious. If he assumes that he is the most important figure in our public life, and that the nation and the whole world are waiting to be instructed by him, that is only what he has long done, and the people show no signs of being disposed to quarrel with him on that account. Anyhow, he will not change in that particular. Nor can we look for the revelation by him of any new gifts of oratory. His speeches will read very much as before in point of style. There will be the old verbose energy of dictation. But what we are curious to know

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

is if he will have anything new to say, whether his addresses will come to a public that is confused, politically, and in a time of hesitation, with a sense of their having struck out guiding principles and provided a lead.

It is frankly admitted that the ordeal is severe. For any other man than Mr. Roosevelt we should say that it would be impossible to pass through it successfully. Consider for how many years he has been incessantly speaking in public. Every thought that he ever had he has dragged from the recesses of his mind and uttered again and again. In an ordinary mortal this would mean that he had hopelessly talked himself out; and that, in any new exertions he might make, he could hope for no more than to display the contortions of the Sibyl without her inspiration. But Mr. Roosevelt is the eighth wonder of the world for activity and fertility and supple turning, and it is possible that he may succeed in catching the ear of his countrymen, if not by novel phrases or epigrammatic expression, by marking out a line of policy and effort which would turn confusion into clear purpose, and give men something not only to think about but to translate into political action.

For such a task, we must remember, Mr. Roosevelt has certain advantages. He has been for a year and a half out of the hurly-burly. He has had time, if not for intense reflection—we can scarcely associate that with his character—at least for observation, for detachment, for seeing American politics in just perspective. Since his return, morever, he has had wide and varied sources of information put freely at his disposal. The symptoms of our political disease have been placed fully before him; the question is whether he is able to diagnose them. As he made deep studies of Africa before setting out to shoot there, so he has been carefully scanning our political map before starting on his present journey. Unless his former acute instinct for what is popular, for what is the rising political star to which to hitch his wagon, has grown dull with disuse, he must be in a position to know with much accuracy what are the thoughts and discontents that are to-day stirring in the hearts of his fellow-countrymen. What we must now await is the discovery whether Mr. Roosevelt is able to answer back to the deeps that are calling.

It will not be enough to succeed merely in evoking great popular enthusiasm for Roosevelt himself. That will be easy. He knows how to strike the old chords. We have already heard them humming again: "I am against the crooked man whether he is rich or poor." "I will bring the corporations to time." There will be no difficulty in setting the crowd to shouting for "Teddy" and crying out that it must have him again in 1912. But all this is on the surface and ephemeral. It does not mark off the claptrap demagogue from the weighty statesman. Is Roosevelt capable of showing himself the latter? Can he go before audiences that are vaguely dissatisfied and querulous, and with sure vigor strike his hand upon the spot and say: "Thou ailest here, and here"? To be specific, take the matter of the tariff. Mr. Roosevelt is to speak in a part of the country where protective duties have awakened an entirely new spirit of resentment and revolt. Is he going to show himself capable of dealing with that great moral question as a real moralist? Will he, bravely recanting his former words and admitting that his previous lethargy in the face of a great national evil was blameworthy, put himself at the head of a movement to strike down this form of embodied injustice? Such are the questions which thoughtful friends of Col. Roosevelt are necessarily asking themselves as he travels West. His opportunity is great. The test to which he voluntarily subjects himself is severe. How will he emerge from it?

That Mr. Roosevelt is himself fully aware of the significance of his coming series of speeches, there is good evidence. He has not left his intimates in ignorance of his intention to strike out for himself, and to blaze new paths. What is to be thought of them, we must wait till we see before judging. It is one thing to furnish catch-words and party cries; it is another to send men to their homes with new and thrilling aspirations kindling in their breasts; so that they will ask only how to work and how to vote in order to compass the national good upon which their eyes have been fixed for the first time. A political orator who can point to the latter result, and can truly say that the impulses he has quickened are in the line of the great democratic movement which now enfolds the world, may justly claim to be a leader, as well as a speaker. The next two weeks will tell us which Roosevelt aspires to be.

ARMY DESERTIONS.

That army circles are deeply stirred by the appearance of a muck-raking article on desertions, in the current *Cosmopolitan Magazine*, entitled, "The Shame of the Army," appears from the prompt and bitter criticisms of it which have appeared in one of the military weeklies. From the pen of Bailey Millard, the *Cosmopolitan* article is of the superficial hap-hazard order, touching in a sensational way the gravest problem the military service has to confront, and offering no really constructive suggestions of any kind, save that the severity of the present sentences for desertion should be decreased. The facts he brings out are not new, and have already appeared in official reports. Yet they are obviously serious enough, for there have been over 50,000 desertions in the decade from 1900 to 1910. Last year there was an increase of 498 over the deserters in the fiscal year 1907-08, the total number of deserters being 5,030, or 4.97 per cent. All of these deserters are branded as criminals, $50 reward is offered for the apprehension of each one, and 4,000 printed descriptions and pictures of the absconders are sent broadcast to the police of the various cities. With probably 40,000 of these unapprehended, it is plain that there are far more criminals of this kind at large than of any other.

But the country, as a whole, does not consider them criminals—there is the rub from the army point of view. The old prejudice against military mercenaries persists; the average American laborer, too, considers it no serious wrong to violate a contract; and there is in many communities, notably in the West, a marked prejudice because of the frequent misbehavior of enlisted men. The standard of the latter has indubitably been raised, but the old frontier soldiers were a rough lot. In 1876, for instance, after the Custer massacre, a batch of 600 "soldiers" was hastily enlisted in the Bowery and sent West, fully half of whom are said to have deserted without loss of time, while few

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

of the others were really desirable soldiers or citizens. While during and after the Spanish war a very worthy class of men entered the service, there is no denying that to-day, if what officers tell us is correct, the recruits are of a much lower order. But whether the deserter is worthless, or a man who violates his oath because of unbearable dissatisfaction, it has never been possible to make the public run him down like a burglar or a bank thief. Adjt.-Gen. Ainsworth is particularly wroth at this, but it avails him nothing. Two years ago he increased the reward, and he bends every effort to catch those who escape, yet the desertions steadily increase.

All this is the more baffling because, as the War Department boasts, the American soldiers are the best paid, best fed, and best housed in the world. They live often in beautiful parks, such as Governors' Island, Fort Sheridan, Fort Snelling, etc. Their work is light. True they have to do what Mr. Millard calls menial work—cook and clean for themselves, keep the grounds in order, dig intrenchments, and do all the necessary work about a barracks. If men enlist thinking that there are army service corps or unseen fairies to do the dish-washing and make the beds, they are bound to be disappointed. If there were such helpers, the soldier would have little to do, indeed. And the present comparative idleness save at manœuvre seasons is one great cause for dissatisfaction. No American soldier works one-third as hard as the French or German soldier, who marches every day, not once a week or once a month. From the foreign point of view, our soldiers are pampered.

What else can be done to make them happy? The lack of trained officers on duty with companies, and the absence of a beer canteen, are given as two reasons for desertion; and the former unquestionably presents a grave evil. As for the latter, there were plenty of desertions in the old days of the canteen, and the average soldier does not suffer from too little drink. If anything, it is more occupation he needs, particularly in the Coast Artillery, whose stations are often inaccessible and whose activities are limited to a couple of hours' drill a day. Hence many have suggested that these idle men be taught some trade. Be that as it may, before the task of keeping men with the colors is abandoned on the ground that the average white American simply will not stand being bossed by a man in uniform, one other measure ought to be tried. This is the holding of officers responsible for the desertions, or in other words for the happiness or unhappiness of their commands.

Thus when one-third of a company deserts from one of the best posts in the service, as happened in Company K, Twenty-eighth Infantry, at Fort Snelling, there is something so obviously wrong as to call for prompt official investigation and the punishment of those responsible. If it be answered that there is no real way to-day to punish an officer for negligence or inefficiency, it is surely the duty of the War Department to lay its plight before Congress, and with the President to insist on remedial legislation. Some such holding of company commanders and regimental commanding officers to account is absolutely essential. Ours is the only important army in the world in which colonels are not held rigidly accountable, and the responsibility for this state of affairs rests at the War Department's doors, through which politics enters just as freely as ever, despite Theodore Roosevelt's beating the air with his threats against officers who sought political aid for advancement or favors. Something like this must surely be done. Besides the 5,000 deserters, the army loses thousands who purchase discharges, are discharged for crime, or quit on the expiration of their enlistments, or retire, or die in service. The authorized strength of the army is 76,901, exclusive of the Philippine Scouts. It is safe to say that between one-third and one-half of the cavalry, artillery, and infantry regiments are renewed each year—with great loss in efficiency and money. Curiously, the colored soldiers, of a race that is always accused of having in domestic service at least no sense of honor or contractual obligation, hardly ever desert, their percentage being scarcely over one-half of one per cent., to 5.17 per cent. for white troops. That means simply that colored men are happy in the army and white men are not.

BRITISH "SELF-DEPRECIATION."

Among those American readers who may have formed a conception of the English character as marked by self-assurance, not to say arrogance, an article in the London *Spectator* will cause some lifting of the eye-brows. The *Spectator* had received a letter from a Canadian correspondent, apropos of "the injury that is done to the Empire by our national habit of self-depreciation." Englishmen, the *Spectator* admits, "light-heartedly abuse themselves for their shortcomings," and as a nation, England "ought to be ashamed of having so greatly overdone the pride that apes humility, and thereby acquired the habit of self-depreciation."

It can hardly be doubted that this picture will appeal to the American sense of humor. If anything had impressed itself on the imagination of our people, during the past century or so, it was the calm sense of superiority displayed, individually and collectively, by Englishmen. Lowell's remarks on "a certain condescension in foreigners" were applied to the English people. The English novelists themselves have delighted in portraying this national attitude, and if an occasional cynical apologist appeared, like Sydney Smith, to explain that the British tourist's haughty silence in the presence of fellow-travellers was due to the fact that he could not think of anything to say, the atmosphere, nevertheless, remained.

There are two sorts of self-depreciation. There is the one which voices real despondency, but there is also the other which embodies the extreme form of self-laudation. Dickens's immensely wealthy bank director, who at Mr. Dombey's dinner table "mentioned his little place at Kingston-upon-Thames and its just being barely equal to giving Dombey a bed and a chop," and the "little bit of shrubbery the ladies would find there, and a poor little flower-bed or so, and a humble apology for a pinery," was sufficiently true to life. But it will hardly be contended that the traditional Englishman has been in the habit of applying this form of self-depreciation very often to his national affairs. Therefore, in the way of both social and political inquiry, it should be interesting to ascertain just what trait of character the *Spectator* has discovered. It gives some intimation in a citation from its Canadian

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

correspondent regarding the "shrieks that English trade has been captured by Germany; howls that a German war-balloon is flying over London by night; facts one day showing that at least 40 per cent. of the English nation is getting ready to go to the workhouse; facts the next day showing that the other 60 per cent. should already be in an asylum for the insane." The prevalence of these notions it ascribes primarily, and perhaps rightly, to the sensational portion of the English press.

But the sensational press, one must remember, is the last of all publications to adopt a programme of national self-depreciation unless it either expresses an overwhelming popular sentiment to the same effect or has some political end to serve. The two most most conspicuous phenomena of present-day British politics—the campaign for a protective tariff and the campaign for unprecedented increase in naval armament—are novelties of the past ten or fifteen years. Neither policy appealed to the British popular mind a generation ago, and the only means possessed by the politician of exciting widespread interest in either programme was through frightening the British people about themselves. Mr. Chamberlain well understood that his "tariff-reform" propaganda had not a shadow of chance for success among the voters, unless he persuaded them that England's trade was decadent, her manufacturing prestige threatened by Germany and America, and her control even of her own home markets gravely imperilled.

But to create such a belief, a systematic campaign of national self-depreciation was indispensable. Similarly, when the people or Parliament balked at the prodigious increase in naval appropriations and at the oppressive taxation requisite to meet them, there was no obvious course of action but to impress on the public mind that supremacy of the seas was slipping from England's grasp, that the British coast itself was in hourly peril of invasion by the hated German, and that Blériot's crossing of the Channel in an airship meant the end of all the old-time safeguards. A public once convinced of the truth of these assertions might be induced to open its pocketbook, but it could hardly fail to be started on the road to self-depreciation.

It will be said, perhaps, that there is more truth than poetry behind the alarmist allegations on which these political campaigns are based. In the present case there is this much of basis for the "scare"—that competition by non-English manufacturing states in neutral export territory is sharper than it used to be, and that, with the growth of navies in the younger states, England's numerical naval predominance is possibly not so great as it was a generation ago. But it requires the arts of a pessimist for political purposes to carry the inference to the extreme of national decadence, and the serious efforts to build up such a theory have been exploded with little difficulty. One is reminded of our own national state of mind a couple of decades ago, when arrogant Great Britain was pilloried on the stump as blocking this country's endeavors to make headway, as sending "British gold" to debauch our voters in elections where the protective tariff was at stake, and even (Mr. Bryan and his friends can tell us when) as placing around our national ankles the fetters of the gold standard of currency, to keep our unhappy people in financial servitude to London. Contrasting that campaign of political self-depreciation on our own account with the present similar campaign in England, the American sense of humor is excited. No doubt the time will come when the British sense of humor will be stirred at recalling the incidents of the present day.

GREECE REVISITED.

ATHENS, August 5.

It has been one of the surprises of my return to Greece, after fifteen years of absence, to see how many more foreigners now come here in summer, and to discover that there is no real answer to the question, why not? Why should a few professional Hellenists have all to themselves this glory of scenery and of "arts and memories of an ancient land"? To enjoy these one needs only an eye for nature and an elementary knowledge of history and art. A friend of the artist G. F. Watts quoted him to me as saying that summer is the only time to see Greece properly. Anyhow people are coming, and will come more. Even in out-of-the-way Delphi, we met in three days representatives of France, Germany, Russia, Sweden, and America; in Athens and easily accessible places one sees considerable parties, "personally conducted" under various agencies, especially American and German, and in the aggregate, no small number of independent travellers.

I.

It was June 23 when I landed at Patras, fifteen days direct from New York. Along with the delightful sense of familiarity, changes were at once apparent. Patras is larger; there is a breakwater, and a second mole, and more shipping; but the old castle and the mountains behind the town are the same. Then came the railway journey to Athens. There can scarcely be a more beautiful railway journey in the world. The narrow-gauge track follows the windings of the southern shore of the Corinthian Gulf, among the vineyards that produce a large share of the world's supply of the little dried grapes we call currants. To the left is the sea, beyond the sea the mountains, a continuous panorama, constantly varied, culminating in Parnassus, with Helikon to close the line in the east. No historical or poetic associations are needed, nature suffices. A part of my pleasure lay in watching the growing enthusiasm of a party of ten Americans who were seeing for the first time that glory of color, endlessly playing over mountains and sea, delicate beyond any human art to suggest, heightening as the gulf widened and the "haughty day filled his blue urn with fire"—violet, purple, and blue, with just enough rose to set these off, and all etherealized by the flood of pure white light. But words mean nothing when you are thinking of color. It is only after seeing such visions that one understands why the Greek poets made so little use of words of color. Some assert it was because the ancient sense of color was little developed. Absurd! More probably it was because their sense of color was more highly developed than ours, so that the crude inadequacy of words was more universally felt, and poets never attempted the impossible. The best one could do was what Pindar and Aristophanes did, employ with moderation all the words for light, gleam, gold, and brilliance. The light they knew was prismatic with the hues we still see in Greece in summer, and at their best in summer alone. No doubt this was what the great English painter referred to. Another note in the foreground, along with the green vineyards and gray olive trees, was the masses of oleanders (ancient daphne) in full bloom—and its period of bloom extends over many weeks. The shrub takes prompt possession of the broad spaces covered with sand and gravel by winter floods. If let alone, the shrub which we know as a tub-plant becomes here a bushy tree. Then after crossing the Isthmus it was the Saronic Gulf and a different light—first Aigina in the south, with the mountains of Peloponnese to the right; then Salamis, glimpse of Hymettos, al-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

ways the luminous blues of the sea and sky. Then the extent and fertility of the Thriasian plain were a surprise, though I knew them of old. As the climax of the day, after slowly climbing the pass behind Aigaleos, we came in sight of Pentelikon, then of Hymettos, and of Athens nestling about her Acropolis, just as the rose of sunset was tinging the mountains, while the Parthenon stood out in dull gold against the blue.

All along the route one significant change was noticeable. Nowhere was there evidence of any recent forest fire. It was clear that the trees had been protected both from fire and from the equally destructive goats, and that in many places new plantations had been made of pines, cypresses, and other trees. Inquiries confirmed my impression. For ten or twelve years the government has occupied itself seriously with the question. The example of King George on his estate at Tatoi has had an influence, a committee under the presidency of the Crown Princess has aided; Greece is sharing in a world-wide movement. The army and the country constabulary are becoming effective instruments of control over the ignorant and careless. The restoration of forests is slow business in so dry a country; but if distinct results are already visible, a generation more will alter the aspect of things materially. Merely stopping the destruction will do much, and the destruction, if not stopped, is being lessened. For example, fifteen years ago, as at my first visit in 1887, a familiar sight in Athens was the huge donkey-loads of fine, tough shrubbery brought to the city for heating the great stone ovens, which the bakers use precisely as in antiquity. Not a single such load have I seen this time. The sale is forbidden. Left on the mountain-side, the roots penetrate far into the crevices, find the veins of soil, prevent denudation, perform part of the conserving function of a forest, and may in many places be followed by trees. Parts of Hymettos and Pentelikon have materially changed their aspect, showing now large patches of green where before all was gray. One mountain-side in another province I traversed lately, which was pretty well occupied by holm-oak, constantly eaten down by the goats to a mere scrub.

Of course, one of the standing problems here is how to make thirteen inches of rain do the work of thirty. The mountains of central and southern Greece are virtually bare of snow by July 1; only a few little patches of white are to be seen on the highest mountains, like Erymanthos and Parnassos. The strictest conservation of water and the fullest utilization of it are imperatively needed. Lately an American air-motor has been found to work economically, turning the daily winds to account in drawing water from deep artesian wells. More may be done in this direction. If some of the mountain torrents that go to waste in winter could only be saved for summer! So large a part of the entire land is mountain, useless except for pasturage of sheep and goats, and for timber, and the conservation of moisture by vegetation, it would seem that scientific forestry and engineering might, by water conservation, do a great deal for agriculture in the small sections adapted to tillage.

II.

I have been led to the border of politics; but I shall not cross it, or shall do so only in general terms. I have often been exasperated by Greek faults; their inefficiency in many things where efficiency is easily within their reach is most annoying, and amounts to a great national waste very damaging to themselves. It is strange, when much of the handiwork of women is so fine, that a good carpenter, mason, or plumber should be so rare. Why should their post office lose or fail to deliver letters so often, and with such imperturbable tranquillity? Their democratic ways and lack of subordination are an abomination to Germans and to the bureaucratic spirit, though Americans can have a little more sympathy there. But this letter has been called forth by my fresh observation of the changes of twenty-three years, which seem, to one who is a phil-hellene, but no blind one, encouraging. Much depends on the background against which the facts are seen. Greece is small and poor. Her peasants are backward in agriculture, and some Oriental habits are not yet thrown off. But under all difficulties, Greece advances. One item alone I find to set down on the other side, and that is a superficial one. I mean the marked increase of beggary in the capital. This began with the refugees from Crete in 1896, who were certainly miserable enough; refugees from Macedonia have been coming since, and the authorities have not handled the matter well. A professional class has thus found encouragement. But there is no reason to believe that this means an increase of poverty here. The evil will disappear when it is properly treated.

On domestic politics I shall venture to say only two things. The movement that centred in the late "Military League" was a tumultuous, extra-constitutional, most unsoldierlike, and in some aspects comical, endeavor to bring about needed reforms which many good people despaired of effecting by regular methods. It had at first the sympathy of all classes, except the petty politician against whom it was directed. But the leaders were incapable of directing it skilfully to any large issue. Being neither politicians nor statesmen, they soon got bewildered; one asks whether any good was accomplished. One tangible and much-needed reform is pointed to as due directly to the uprising—that of the civil service. Entrance to the service is now only through examinations, and dismissal must be preceded by charges proved before a special tribunal. We in America can appreciate the significance of this change, if it is made permanent.

III.

In looking at the relations between Greece and foreign Powers, particularly in regard to Crete and Macedonia, certain historical facts, easily accessible but too often ignored by most people, should be kept constantly in mind. The question how far the present Greeks are descended from the Greeks of the fifth and fourth centuries B. C., is academic and irrelevant. I do not care. The important facts are these: First, in much of the region occupied by the Hellenes of the classical age, in the lands bordering on the Ægean and the southern shore of the Black Sea and the waters connecting these, there now lives a people speaking a language that is related to that of Plato much as Italian is to that of Cicero. Secondly, the ancestors of these people lived for at least a thousand years under one government, that of the Eastern Roman Empire, with its capital at Canstantinople; under one religion, the Christianity based on the New Testament and the decrees of the first seven Œcumenical councils; with one language, Greek, and the traditions of one literature, those of the same Byzantine Empire. How long does it take to unify a race? Can the English—I do not say the British—yet be called a race? Are the Japanese a race? Thirdly, since the Byzantine Empire was conquered and occupied by the Turks, many of the Byzantine Greeks have found it to their worldly advantage to amalgamate with the conquerors, and have given the Turks a very large part of their strongest men, especially in administration and in war. For example, the victorious general in the Greco-Turkish war of 1897 was of Greek blood. But none found it to their advantage to amalgamate with the despised Christians; for some four centuries the Christian Greeks have remained substantially unmixed. Add this long period of subjection to the previous forces for unification. I think one must admit that these Greeks are entitled to be regarded as a race, whatever elements went into the melting-pot from 2,000 to 1,500 years ago, and whatever small fractions have been added since. And wherever situated, they feel themselves to be one people. What we are seeing, then, is not a weak little kingdom trying to extend its borders by absorbing its big neighbor, but a divided people trying to unite. The only claim Turkey ever had on Crete or Macedonia or Constantinople is that of the robber to his booty, to which long possession gives a quasi-title.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

But Turkey has never done anything for her subjects to justify her occupation—as England has for India and Egypt, as Austria has for Bosnia and Herzegóvina, as we are trying to do for the Philippines. Though the Greeks lost in the last war, the Powers were simply forced to give Crete, at its close, the main substance of what Greece fought for. Intelligent Greeks here now are not worrying over Crete. When the time is ripe, she will join Greece, though it is a little trying to the Cretans to see hopes so long deferred postponed again after such definite promises had been given. But these untoward circumstances mean only a postponement. Macedonia is the sore place just now. And the free Greeks can never be indifferent while any of their brethren under Turkish rule are suffering. Tens of thousands of them have been forced in recent years to take refuge in Thessaly; these have had to be provided for, mainly by the government; this is one cause that has added to her debt and increased taxation. Nor can Turkey ever have tranquillity so long as her millions of Greek subjects—no one knows exactly how many millions, from three to eight perhaps—have just cause for complaint. They are the most advanced, and, along with the Bulgarians, the most energetic section of her population, as they always have been. Under equal rights they might become too strong! Then while the Bulgarians are concentrated in one section, this Greek element is widely diffused, partly in this region where the Bulgarians are the later comers, with some 300,000 in Constantinople itself. They have clung for so many centuries to their language and religion and entire civilization, that it is futile to expect them, under any constitution, to give these up and become simply citizens of Turkey, and not first of all Greeks. They have their schools and churches and their Patriarchate, and are numerous in well-organized communities. If their history has proved anything, it has proved their capacity for resistance to absorption, their power to survive and to recover. Thus, from the Turkish point of view, admitting the best intentions, the problem is thorny. How the whole thing will work out no man can foresee. Temporarily, European mutual distrust, and broader considerations as well, seem to require that the Young Turks shall have more time and a fair chance. Some good judges, observing the fine qualities of the common people and the fine purposes of some leaders of the revolution, believe the Young Turks will succeed. I do not know the ground well enough to do more than ask questions; but have the Turks ever shown any general capacity for managing large commercial or financial enterprises? If not, can they build up a civilized government? The Greeks, on the other hand, have always had a due proportion of bankers and shipowners and merchant princes, successful administrators of large affairs.

IV.

Archæology is no part of my subject here, but one matter so concerns the whole world that it should be mentioned. The antiquities of Greece, whether temples and other ruins or the priceless treasures of her museums, are well cared for, and in spite of poverty are opened freely to the people as part of the educational system, and to foreigners as a treasure held in trust for all the world. Of course, the question of restoration of buildings partly standing is constantly present and is often difficult to decide. The Erechtheion has been put through an elaborate course of treatment, the Propylaia is now in hand, the Parthenon seems to be next on the programme. Opinions have been divided, and especially one hears and reads vigorous protests against all attempts to restore the Parthenon. The whole dispute arises from the ambiguity of the word restoration. It may mean almost anything, from what is most innocent to what is most offensive. What have the Greek archæologists shown that they mean by it in the present case? So far as I can see, they have not only not damaged, but have immensely improved, the condition of the Erechtheion. They have done to it substantially what competent archæologists everywhere do to broken vases or statuary. They have put together the existing fragments, using only so much modern material as is necessary to join these and preserve them, that a better idea may be gained of the missing parts and of the whole. There is no attempt to deceive, or to make a pretty show-piece, or to complete beyond what is necessary for the preservation and exhibition of what is original. In the case of a ruined building, mortar or clamps and some new material are necessary, and they are incongruous. But the result is a far better conception of the original whole and a better appreciation of each fragment than was possible without these incongruous additions. So even the æsthetic effect is finer. Fragments that meant nothing as they lay scattered about on the ground, except to the specialist, are set in their proper places and speak to every observer. The north porch of the Erechtheion now has its panelled ceiling, the west façade shows something like its Roman form, the outline of the whole is less jagged and far more pleasing. On the scientific side, much has been learned, though many questions will remain forever insoluble. One may occasionally differ on some detail, but, on the whole, the scholars who have had charge have vindicated their competence and their taste. They deserve our gratitude, and I am glad to record my own. All such work is expensive; the task with the Parthenon is delicate and serious. But, if they will do that as well as they have done the others, I shall hope to return to see it. Simply to raise the columns that now lie stretched out as rows of disjointed drums to the north and south, and to join their capitals by a semblance of an architrave, will be to preserve the fragments and will enlarge our appreciation of the crowning jewel of the Acrópolis.

THOMAS D. GOODELL.

Correspondence.

DR. HALL'S REPLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: A few weeks ago a reporter of the Boston *Post* called on me with clippings from papers in the West, where I lately lectured, and elsewhere, not only misrepresenting, but utterly falsifying what I said, and putting sentiments in my mouth that are abhorrent to me. I told this reporter that I would not be interviewed, but would be grateful if he would correct these fabrications concerning which we chatted a few moments. What was my surprise, August 5, to receive a fat envelope from a clipping bureau enclosing a score of articles and editorials from many newspapers based upon an "interview" printed in the Boston *Post* the Sunday before. In this letter I am made to say various preposterous things, and, worst of all, everything is put in quotations, although *my visitor took no notes*. I sent a letter of remonstrance to the *Post* asking them to print it. This they do not do, and so I turn to the *Nation*.

For instance, I am made to advise teaching "the psychology of love in the public schools." I never held or expressed any such opinion, and deem such a thing preposterous.

I am said to regret that the "physical stamina of girls in the public schools is lower than it was in former days." This, too, I never said, but believe it distinctly higher and constantly improving.

I am said to have condoned and defended "flirtation on the part of girls," and this is amplified. I hold no such views, and do not remember ever to have discussed the subject. The reporter must have confounded me with another professor in another college, who was, rightly or wrongly, some months since, said to have discoursed on this theme.

I am said to have defined love as "emotive delusion" and "rudimentary paranoia." I never attempted to define it, but in a book printed years ago held these, with a lot of other freak definitions by European authorities, up to ridicule.

"Woman makes man a little tin god," etc. The expression and the sentiment are foreign to my mind.

Girls are "ultra-feminized in school." I never dreamed of such a thing, and should have said the tendencies were rather the other way, if anything.

Woman is "supreme over her husband." This, too, is an idea very foreign to my limited sphere of thought.

In the article as a whole there is almost nothing that resembles anything I ever said or thought, and the whole spirit and tenor of the article is repugnant to my tastes and opinions.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Is there no limit to the misrepresentations to which any private citizen is exposed? Is he not at least to be given the benefit of the assumption that he has common sense, and does not habitually talk twaddle or worse, unless he has been proved to do so? Lately, in Chicago, I described with approval the movement for folk-dancing, which is now so widespread. Next day I was featured as advocating the ballet, and was cartooned as a ballet girl with one foot high over my head. In another city I spoke of the advantages and dangers of boxing as a physical exercise in our gymnasia. Next day I was represented as a defender of slugging, and found myself in the ring in tights. Caricature is amusing and has its rights, but what about unscrupulous misrepresentations for the sake of sensationalism? I wish the *Nation* would discuss the general principles that underly this matter, which it is far more competent to do than I. Perhaps I have no grievance and ought merely to laugh it off as a joke, but I have already had a number of letters from clergymen and teachers censuring me severely for views as repugnant to me as to them. What about this? Is it not a good summer theme for discussion?

G. Stanley Hall.

Clark University, August 15.

PROBABILISM.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: The apology of your French correspondent for the Jesuits, in your issue of July 14—a good date for an article from France—confuses the matter somewhat in his remarks on probabilism, where he seeks to defend that principle by reference to the axiom that an uncertain law does not hold and to Bishop Butler's probability as the guide of life. Here is the situation presupposed by probabilism. There are two courses of conduct open to me. One of these is by far the safer, much more in accordance with the moral law and the law of love, and even with my own conscience, when undeflected by my desires, and therefore by every principle of Christianity (1 Thess. 5:22) I ought to take that course, and would take it if I had not heard of the wrangling of casuists. The other course is a loose and less safe one, but, nevertheless, it may be considered as one on which the law is doubtful because I can find one good writer, at least, who so believes. I therefore can take the second course as probably correct, and cannot be held up for it in the confessional; I give the benefit of my happy discovery of a lax casuist like Liguori, for instance, to my conscience, and do the act forbidden by the ethics of Jesus in the opinion of all earnest Christians. The opinion of one reputable casuist that the law is uncertain in this case makes it probable for me that this is so. Butler and Mill were hardly sponsors for this kind of ethics. It is true that Pope Alexander VII rejected the form of the doctrine that an opinion represented by only one favorite writer could be considered probable. But like many other papal censures, this has also gone into innocuous desuetude. The view has prevailed among many excellent Catholic moralists that an opinion endorsed by one learned teacher in this field makes it a probable one. And, says Father Noldin, S. J. ("Moralsysteme" in Kirchen-Lexicon, 2 Aufl. [1893], VIII, 1879), "this view has received authentic confirmation by the solemn declaration of the Church that, on account of the authority of the saint alone, probability is imparted to the views represented by St. Alphonso Liguori." And this last remark will also serve to defend Boehmer from the implied censure of S. D.'s sarcasm about his "habits of mind," as shown in the Bonn professor's really true words to the effect that Liguori's canonization and elevation to the rank of doctor of the Church have "consecrated officially the traditional methods of the society's casuistry, as models for the science of moral theology." And what kind of views in Liguori probabilism thus covers as admissible may be seen in any scientific work which treats of such things, as, for instance, briefly in the article "Liguori" in the ninth edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica.

I might also say that the idea that Wesley's revival had an "historical descent" from Jesuit "retreats and missions" is pure fiction. During Wesley's day, and long before, the Jesuits held no missions that could have come under his observation. The revivals under the Quakers in the seventeenth century, which had several points of contact with Wesley's, as well as various activities of both Anglicans and Nonconformists, could with much more reason be alleged as the historical antecedents of Wesley's method. Permit me to add finally that Professor Boehmer is one of the most brilliant of the younger teachers of Church history in Germany, of thoroughly scientific spirit and attainments, and his little book on the Jesuits (Leipzig: Teubner, 2 Aufl., 1907), is one of the best brief treatments in any language, as is in another field his "Luther im Lichte der neueren Forschungen" (2 Aufl., 1909).

J. Alfred Faulkner.

Madison, N. J., August 10.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SUMNER.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: I was interested in reading the bibliography of the late Professor Sumner in your issue of July 21. There should be added to it a little pamphlet, which Professor Sumner published or had printed when I was a senior in college in 1882, entitled, "Political Economy and Political Science; a Selected List of Books Recommended for General Reading and for an Introduction to Special Study." It contained the titles of about fifty books, and a brief critical appraisal of each one. I have found it in use to be very just.

Albert H. Atterbury.

New York, August 16.

MEDICAL TRAINING.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Mr. Flexner's recent review of the conditions prevailing at the present time in the medical profession and the criticism by the Carnegie Foundation of medical institutions in general remind the writer of some observations by Joseph Addison on the "overcrowded professions," which were published in the *Spectator* of Saturday, March 24, 1711. He says:

> I am sometimes very much troubled when I reflect upon the three great professions, of Divinity, Law, and Physick, how they are each of them overburdened with practitioners and filled with multitudes of Ingenious Gentlemen that starve one another.

The man who has not the means to defray the expense of a long preliminary training, to make him a "desirable" matriculate for the institution of advanced learning, has a right to some consideration. Great endowments, laboratories, and teachers unfortunately cannot make the man of true science; there is something behind all these things.

The great leaders of thought in science were born with the spark of genius. When we read the history of their lives, of those few of which we have the true story of their childhood days, we cannot fail to be impressed with the traits and characteristics which, clearly innate, dominated their future careers. Can any or all of the changed conditions, as expressed in the modern requirement for matriculation, supply these qualities? He would indeed be bold who answered in the affirmative. Truly the whole subject of medical training appears to be in a transitory state. The passing of the early preceptor was a loss from which we have not recovered, and the question whether we should not adopt some of the old ways with the new is not to be totally disregarded. Apparently if we are to make progress there should be schools which have for their object the training of *practitioners* of medicine, and those which devote their energy to *research work and training of teachers*. In the old days it was possible to find both confined in one, but this was before the days of commercialism in medicine!

Joseph Leidy, Jr.

Narragansett Pier, R. I., July 31.

Literature.

SOCIALISM, DOGMATIC, EMPIRICAL, AND IDEALISTIC.

Evolutionary Socialism: A Criticism and Affirmation. By Edward Bernstein. Translated by Edith C. Harvey. New York: B. W. Huebsch. $1 net.

The Class Struggle (*Erfurt Program*). By Karl Kautsky. Translated by William E. Bohn. Chicago: Charles H. Kerr & Co. 50 cents net.

Twentieth Century Socialism: What it Is Not; What it Is; How it May Come. By Edmond Kelly. New York: Longmans, Green, & Co. $1.75 net.

The Poverty of Philosophy (A Reply to "La Philosophie de la Misère" of M. Proudhon). By Karl Marx. With a Preface by Friedrich Engels. Translated by H. Quelch. Chicago: Charles H. Kerr & Co. $1.

The Evolution of Property from Savagery to Civilization. By Paul Lafargue. Chicago: Charles H. Kerr & Co. 50 cents net.

Finality in social philosophy is as remote as in metaphysical speculation. Socialism, like skepticism, is a constantly recurring note in human thinking. We

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

must expect repeatedly to hear the dissonance of

> . . . the turbid ebb and flow
> Of human misery.

The experienced student will therefore dismiss the hope, which in immaturity he may have cherished, of universal acquiescence in any particular type of economic organization; and will assess a group of books such as this as indicating merely the shifting of the fugitive tide of current opinion.

The three principal volumes, those of Bernstein, Kautsky, and Kelly, are interesting primarily as representing three different versions of the Socialist gospel. The first two, it is true, are but translations of material which German Socialists have threshed over for more than a decade, but the transfer, or, rather, the extension of the area of debate to the English-speaking world is not without its extreme significance. First, in 1892, Kautsky published "Das Erfurter Program," an authoritative exposition of the creed adopted by the German Social Democracy in the previous year. Kautsky's work has gone through a number of editions, this English rendering, under the title "The Class Struggle," being a condensation from the eighth German edition. Its author declared in 1904 his "Erfurt Program" "in all essential particulars an accurate statement of the principles of the German Social Democracy," valid also for the international Socialist movement. Kautsky, in short, is the accredited exponent of unchanged and unchanging Marxist orthodoxy.

Bernstein, on the contrary, essays the rôle of higher critic of "the faith once delivered to the saints" of Marx's fold. His heresies spring from his employment of an objective scientific analysis of industrial phenomena. His letter to the Social Democratic party at Stuttgart in October, 1898, was by implication condemned by them the following year. Kautsky denounced it as "an abandonment of the fundamental principles and conception of scientific Socialism." In the present volume Bernstein refuses to "yield on any material point"; and while protesting himself a Marxist, proceeds to give an exposition of "the tendencies of German Social Democratic revisionists."

Edmond Kelly's volume stands in sharp contrast to the other two. It was penned when that versatile and chivalrous spirit knew his days were numbered. In fact, he survived its completion by only a fortnight. His conversion to Socialism was comparatively recent. It was not Marx, but his own social idealism, which made Edmond Kelly a Socialist. He was distinctly of the right wing, and his book, "intended for non-Socialists," is shot through with an idealism—in places with a Utopianism—which gives his Socialism a characteristic stamp of its own, congenial to the American mind, but foreign alike to the materialistic dogmatism of the orthodox Marxist and to the objective scientific empiricism of Bernstein. It is not unfair to say that the three volumes represent, respectively, the dogmatic, the empirical, and the idealist phases of Socialism.

The "law and the prophets" of scientific Socialism may be summed up in two propositions, in Marx's materialistic interpretation of history, and in his predicted displacement of capitalism, or the system of private ownership in the instruments of production, by Socialism. Bernstein attempts to hold by the law and to dispense with the prophecies; Kautsky holds by both; while Kelly essentially repudiates the philosophy of materialism, though he seems to accept the promised order of large-scale production as inevitable, or rather as practically realized already in most industries in the United States, where only the formal vesting of title in the community is necessary for the realization of Socialism.

How unequivocal is the flat divergence among these writers may be judged by the fact that Bernstein derides the idea "that we have to expect shortly a collapse of the bourgeoisie economy" (p. x), and insists upon the fact that the "number of the members of the possessing classes is to-day not smaller, but larger" (p. xi); whereas Kautsky still harps upon the evident "death-struggle of small production" (p. xvi); and Kelly asserts that our Wall Street group of financiers by their power over the currency "are masters of our commerce, our manufactures, our exports, our politics, our religion" (p. 197). Bernstein denies the tendency of industrial concentration, or large-scale production, to be universal (p. xi); he denies the tendency of the middle class to disappear; he cites statistics to prove the growth of moderate sized incomes (p. 46); he declares "the possessing classes" to be increasing "both relatively and absolutely" (p. 48); he questions Marx's dictum that crises tend to become more frequent or more disastrous; and declares that Socialism does not depend on the "superstition" that there is an "absorption of surplus value by a diminishing group of mammoth capitalists" (p. 48). Kautsky *per contra* avers that "day by day, the small business establishments disappear" (p. 63); that the "intervals of prosperity become ever shorter; the length of the crisis ever longer" (pp. 85, 86). Kelly declares that "workingmen are dependent on their employers under conditions worse than negro slavery" (p. 47); that here in the United States, on July 19, 1909, "millions . . . are on the verge of starvation, and have been for two years past . . ." (p. 64). He even estimates their number at 11,666,666 (p. 77). Bernstein in rebuttal finds "in all advanced countries . . . the privileges of the capitalist bourgeoisie yielding step by step to democratic organizations" (p. xi); holds that the coöperative stores in Great Britain deflect part of the "surplus value" into the pockets of the workers; declares the middle class—not excepting the German—in their bulk to be still fairly healthy, not only economically, but also morally (p. 149, note); and finally culminates in asseverating that "the formation of political and social organs of the democracy is the indispensable preliminary condition to the realization of Socialism" (p. 163).

So far as these conflicting contentions are concerned, it may be said that the principal disputants hardly join issue. Bernstein relies on statistics and empirical investigations. Kautsky proceeds deductively with apodictic certitude from the truths of "Das Capital." On the other hand, whether Bernstein may legitimately contend that he is a true follower of Marx because he (Bernstein) has purged the Marxist system of "a dualism which runs through the whole monumental work of Marx" (p. 209), is more than doubtful. Marx, by the way, would probably have writhed under Bernstein's gloss of Marx's theory of value. The "socially necessary labor time" which Marx taught constituted value does not necessarily hold for particular commodities, says Bernstein, but only for the total output of industry. This reminds one of the chemistry professor who was wont to remark, "the particular experiment, gentlemen, has failed; but the general principle remains true, nevertheless." Kelly is avowedly an eclectic, for whom the fetich of Socialist orthodoxy was relatively of slight concern. His divergence, however, from the narrow path is more striking, when viewed in its bearings upon the fundamental doctrine of Marx, the materialistic interpretation of history.

The fundamental and characteristic principle of Marx's philosophy is the "materialistic interpretation of history." This principle consists in the allegation that in all human history the "determining factor" is the complex of "the material productive forces and the conditions of production among men at the time" ("Evolutionary Socialism," p. 7). According to Kautsky, "in the last analysis, the history of mankind is determined, not by ideas, but by an economic development which progresses irresistibly, obedient to certain underlying laws and not to any one's wishes or whims" ("The Class Struggle," p. 119). Both Bernstein and Kautsky are agreed that "ideologic forces" or "ideas" may serve as vehicles or agents by a sort of maieutic process to hasten or to delay the inevitable culmination of Socialism. Bernstein thinks that he thus frees Socialist philosophy from the charge of philosophic materialism. He appears to imagine that because he recognizes

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

"ideologic forces" or "ideas," he escapes the exposure to which philosophic idealism has always subjected materialism, pure and simple. But when we inquire into the character of these "ideologic forces" and "ideas," what do we learn of their nature? They are not "unconditional," says Bernstein (p. 13); and Kautsky informs us that "ideas are only the means to social development; the first impulse does not proceed from them, . . . the first impulse comes from economic conditions" (p. 119). If the philosophic materialist is, as Bernstein affirms, a "Calvinist without God," the Marxist appears to be an ostrich hiding his head in the sand of secondary causes. Materialism suffers very little of a sea change by tricking out its necessary agents in the filmy vesture of "ideas" when these very "ideas" are admitted to be only allotropic manifestations of matter.

Even if the fundamental law of Marxism be analyzed on the empirical historical plane, it is far from certain that the prevailing conditions of production exclusively shape all social institutions, such as the form of family life, and the constitution of social classes. Production among the lower animals is essentially the obtaining of their food supply. How then are we to explain the difference between the hive and the solitary bee, between the hermit-like carnivores and the wolf-pack, between the promiscuity of apes and the monogamy of birds? Or, if we shift to the human plane, what change in productive technique created in Japan the order of the Samurai; or what revolution in industry planted upon the Pantheon the emblem of the cross? It is precisely here where Kelly, though impliedly repudiating Marx, makes his real contribution to a sound philosophy of history. Kelly is, indeed, intent upon the disproof of Herbert Spencer's contention that "because natural evolution proceeds upon the principle of the survival of the fittest, therefore human evolution must proceed upon the same lines" (p. 363). But the refutation of Spencer—and impliedly of Marx—is triumphantly accomplished. It is true that Kelly merely reproduces the essence of the argument he had advanced in his earlier writings upon this subject. But that earlier argument was a masterpiece which may well bear reproduction, and which will more than expiate many of the ill-considered opinions and projects embodied in this book, written when the great shadow was already falling upon his page. Human society, gripped as it is by the imperious requirement of material want, has grown to be what it is not merely by acquiescence in the natural process of selective slaughter, but by rising above that process—by imposing the self-legislated trammels of restraint upon sexual jealousy, through the institution of the modern family. To this the social insects have never attained. Extirpation or sterilization of the adults of one sex is the price they pay for their well-ordered social state. It is well enough to tell the sluggard to go to the ant to learn the lesson of industry—though we might, perhaps, with equal pertinence tell the sluggard to go to the devil—but the social regenerator may as well recognize that social well-being is to be sought in a moralized human nature, not in animal automatism.

There are certain qualities about collectivists of the stamp of Kautsky which offend against the scientific temper. There is a cocksureness about the world's industrial future—a quality which sorts naturally enough with the ignorance of industrial history which Kautsky at times displays. Pauperism, says he, first appeared "only as an exceptional phenomenon. In the Middle Ages, for example, there were but few who did not own the instruments of production necessary for the satisfaction of their own wants" (p. 165). There is also in Kautsky, Lafargue, and Marx, a sublime certitude impervious to the sober questioning of inquirers. In more than one respect, the collectivists of this stripe resemble the adherents of Mrs. Eddy. Most offensive of all is a trait common to this group which seems to lurk in their Teutonic origin. It is the employing of language towards opponents which in spirit is akin to billingsgate, but which in expression assumes a bitter, contemptuous *Gemeinheit*, foreign alike to the gentleman and the scholar.

. . . tantæne animis cœlestibus iræ?

Thus Engels in his preface to this translation of Marx's "Misère de la Philosophie" belabors Rodbertus much as a drunken *Bauer* might his wife. The entire work, now Englished for the first time, is a bitter, ironical exposé of the pretentious profundities of Proudhon. The translator has an aversion to grammatical usage—"without I . . . having abandoned (p. 34), etc." Misprints abound, perhaps by way of illustrating the Poverty of Philosophy. Thus we find "raito" (p. 38), "oppositon" (p. 39), "Riacrdo" (p. 53), "Proudhan" (p. 101), "borgeois" (p. 113), and "psyhcologial" (p. 168)—among the lesser gems.

The other minor volume is Lafargue's essay on the evolution of property. The Marxian bias permeates the entire essay. Thus we read: "Capitalist civilization condemns the proletarian to vegetate in conditions of existence inferior to those of the savage" (p. 11), whose morality was admirable until "deteriorated by the Bible and brandy" (p. 33). Even where the writer was free to draw conclusions in matters unaffected by collectivism, he was often undiscriminating. It will be news to most that the French Revolution "was fraught with misery and ruin for the peasant" (p. 120). The judicious economic historian will grieve also over the alleged origin of the craft gilds (p. 130). There is, of course, no valid objection to inexpensive reprints of Socialist classics, but where the pages do not follow in sequence, as between p. 83 and p. 89, and where outrageous misprints are numerous, the reader has a valid complaint against the slovenliness of the publisher.

A rather commonplace but at the same time a rather reassuring consideration, emerges from the scrutiny of the various currents of socialistic speculation. As Socialism becomes concrete and practical, its perils, which loom so large *in abstracto*, seem to lose much of their menace. This is due in large part to the fact that Socialism becomes itself transformed in the process until it is quite a different thing from the simonpure article of Marx. The degrees of approach to something like an *entente* with solidarism vary, of course, from writer to writer. But even Kautsky speaks with disapproval of "confiscation" (p. 129), although "exploitation" is, he thinks, inevitable (p. 130). He expressly exempts savings bank deposits (p. 131), and graciously allows the small producer, presumably including the farmer, to "keep his tools of production" (p. 132). Edmond Kelly declares that "much land and many factories represent to-day an investment of accumulated wages; . . . to expropriate such land without compensation would be as unjust an act of spoliation as the seizure of the land by violence. . . ." (p. 124). Socialists repel the idea that they favor a "dividing up" of wealth, although it is rather a silly subterfuge they invent when they aver that productive plants are not to be physically parcelled out, but only the income emerging from such plants is to be subject to an authoritative partition not based on extant property rights. To this the capitalist might make the excellent rejoinder:

> You take my house when you do take the prop
> That doth sustain my house; you take my life
> When you do take the means whereby I live.

But when all this is granted, the Socialist cannot escape any more than can his opponent the sweet reasonableness of social facts and social necessities. Men shudder at Socialism who shout for "conservation of natural resources." And Socialists who denounce exploitation are beginning to admit a residual sphere where the competitive stimulus and individual enterprise, even for profit, may be temporarily permissible (Kelly, p. 331). Bernstein declines to commit himself longer to a doctrinaire cosmopolitanism. He cannot escape the allurements of the spirit of nationality. He clearly has in mind, first and foremost, the creation in Germany of a true rep-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

resentative democracy. It would not be very surprising if in this country, as in Germany and in England, the reëstablishment of popular political control might be accomplished under the forms of a political agitation, professedly socialistic in the Fatherland, professedly reformatory in England and America, but embodying in every case the common principle of a revivified democracy.

CURRENT FICTION.

Wild Oats. By James Oppenheim. With a Foreword by Edward Bok. New York: B. W. Huebsch.

Of late years the novel has more or less successfully appropriated the functions of the historian, the political and social economist, the scientist, the essayist, and the preacher. Pathology is the newest field. Alcoholism, neurasthenia, and various phases of degeneracy have become common themes for the erstwhile romancer. And the strange thing is that the romantic method is now not infrequently applied to these more or less unsavory themes. Mr. James Oppenheim here invites us boldly into one of the darkest corners of the dolorous field. The creator of Doctor Rast has heretofore shown himself an odd compound of realism and well-nigh hysterical sentimentalism. Both elements are intensified in this story. He has not merely written a tract, for his people, extravagantly as they may be presented, have a certain reality. Doctor Rast and his Nell have a hand in the action, and the two persons more immediately involved are of engaging as well as piteous aspect. And yet the question remains whether the experience recorded of them is of a sort to be treated profitably by so slight and emotional a hand as Mr. Oppenheim's. Mr. Edward Bok, arbiter of a great feminine constituency, is sanguine. "It may be," he says in his "foreword," "that the work of arousing the public conscience on the great evils that threaten the very foundations of our social structure, is in the hands of the fictionist. This has unquestionably been true in the past. If it be true of the present evil, may this story speak its great and vibrant message in clarion tones." The present "fictionist," unfortunately, has no clarion tones, but a small, reedy voice, eager and tremulous with feeling, fit to celebrate the ecstasies of young love, young ambition, young anguish. The theme with which he here struggles, whether too high or too low, is beyond him. It has to do with one of the oldest and basest of human penalties. The clarion tone of Juvenal rang it forth. Hogarth gave it another form of vigorous utterance in the third plate of "Marriage-à-la-Mode." When Mr. Bok speaks of the "Great Black Plague" as an evil which "we must very soon face as an actual question to be squarely met and dealt with," we have difficulty in following him. Why "very soon"? Because the evil is rapidly on the increase? Because ignorance of it is growing? We do not think either supposition reasonable. We are forced to the suspicion that the journalistic eye observes in this perennial peril a cause which may conveniently be inscribed upon our world-reforming banner when the Great White Plague is no more—or when it has sufficiently staled upon the popular imagination.

Blaze Derringer. By Eugene P. Lyle, jr. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co.

In the first place, this romance is rather tiresomely like Mr. Richard Harding Davis's South American extravaganzas, especially the latest of them. Here also the young college athlete of inextinguishable fame and (for the school-girl reader, at least) deathless charm sets himself the task of rescuing from prison and imminent death an ex-dictator of the usual Spanish-American republic, which is known to the present author as "Sylvanlitlan." Here also the ex-dictator is possessed of a beauteous daughter of North American manners, who is coveted by several dashing young natives, but destined, of course, for her father's rescuer. Blaze Derringer is son of a Texas cattleman. The name Derringer needs no apology: Blaze alludes to the color of his hair. He leaves college by request, and reports himself in Texas; whereupon the father gives him five thousand dollars and two years to spend it in. The understanding is that if Blaze returns at the end of the two years with a like sum, the father will add two ciphers to it. You perceive the plot: the jailed ex-dictator offers, through his daughter, a large reward for aid in escaping. Blaze hears of it through a desperado named Slag, and the pair go after the money together. But, of course, a glance at the daughter is enough to rid the hero of his mercenary motive. He will have none of the money after the trick is done; in due course, there turns out to be another not totally unexpected reward for him. It is an old story. The only excuse for it economically would be a fresh and ingenious mode of treatment. But the author is no doubt safe in ignoring mere economic considerations, and in requiring of himself the slightest and most perfunctory attention to such matters as intricacy and plausibility of plot. The scheming of Blaze and his ally are child's play, and the escape of the ex-dictator pure farce; but we suspect that unexacting youth would hail the whole performance, by virtue of its cheerfulness and dash, a "corker."

A Circuit Rider's Wife. By Corra Harris. Philadelphia: Henry Altemus Co.

This is a sketch of a Methodist saint; the saint, however, is not the Wife who records her reminiscences—she was "not one of the pallid prayer-meeting virgins," the gayest young Episcopalian hoyden in town, rather—but William, the itinerant preacher, who after thirty years on country circuits has, we are led to hope, "received his LL.D. in the Kingdom of Heaven along with Moses and Elijah." For thirty years the Wife subdued herself to his quality, and acted as his spiritual dynamo at missionary meetings, with only one rebellion against eternal poverty of spirit and only an occasional caustic comment, as on the ways of the feminine soul with the innocent preacher. She had her doubts, that is, about the church system that handcuffed him, but never about William; yet to this church she returns with a genuine conviction of backsliding after a brief widowed experience in a modern institutional church in New York.

It may be doubted if the successive sketches of donation parties, revivals, protracted meetings, obstreperous stewards, and Parsonage Aid Societies can hold the interest of one who cannot himself bring to them a certain continuity born of at least a lively tradition concerning these things. There is a shrewd humor in the book, often of that deep sort which comes to some people from a habit of observing the things of this world against a background of eternity, but not infrequently, owing to a certain cheapness of phrase, it leaves an impression, as William himself did after a visit to a worldly preacher, of being "fresh." We reckon that this is a Southern story, but the Southern atmosphere does not carry conviction. The character of the good parson, however, does, and it is the preservation of this obsolescent type that gives the book its worth; for William fills his world, which with all its bareness and narrowness and vulgar emotionalism is still tense with the "witness of the Spirit," with something like epic completeness.

Rosamond the Second. By Mary Mears. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Co.

In "The Breath of the Runners," Miss Mears produced, not long since, a story of more than average interest. This book we must take to be either an early attempt at fiction or a later experiment in the wrong sort of fiction. The plot has its ingenuity; Poe might have given it a haunting mystery, or Stockton might have wrought it into a humorous *jeu.* As it stands, one hardly knows even what he is expected to make of it. The style is high-flown to the point of absurdity, but there is no indication that the absurdity is intentional. The whole affair turns on the invention by a young scientist of a sort of female Frankenstein monster, created in the image of the young man's scornful sweetheart. There is a scene of meet-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

ing between the girl and the automaton (for such the creature properly is), which has great farcical possibilities, but in the actual handling it is not especially funny, nor has it the uncanny impressiveness which we suspect the author was striving for. In short, this is one of the countless books now issued yearly which seem to have been made out of whole cloth—commodities intended, like the spectacles of Moses Primrose, not for use, but for sale. It is a pity that writers of real ability should so often lend themselves to insincere work of this kind. It is not a fault to make such experiments, but it is a fault to allow their publication.

CHINESE SUPERSTITIONS.

The Religion of the Chinese. By J. J. M. De Groot. New York: The Macmillan Co. $1.25 net.

This little volume gives a description of the popular religion of the Chinese people. Its core the author finds to be animism, an implicit belief in the animation of the universe. From the earliest times, all phenomena are grouped under the positive and negative principles: the first represents light, warmth, productive life, and the heavens from which all these good things emanate; and the second is associated with darkness, cold, death, and the earth. Practical man is concerned chiefly with these principles as represented by a multitude of spirits, good and bad. The good animate heaven, the sun, moon, stars, wind, rain, clouds, thunder, fire, the earth, seas, mountains, rivers, rocks, stones, animals, plants, and the souls of deceased men. The evil swarm everywhere in numbers inestimable; for example, public roads are haunted by them, especially during the night, and numerous are the stories of wretches who have been slain by them or miserably afflicted. It is possible to find authentic accounts of hosts of such spectres setting whole towns and countries in commotion and utterly demoralizing the people.

This belief is embodied in laws which prohibit magical practices and prescribe severe penalties for heretical sects which have dealings with these enemies of mankind. Sometimes whirlwinds of public excitement blow over the people, and the absurdest stories are circulated and believed. The officials then issue proclamations directly calculated to increase the disturbance of the public mind. They try to avert the spectres by sacrifice, and Emperors have interfered, summoning the demons to cease their terrible works.

Professor De Groot gives us many accounts in particular of the actions and doings of the spectres. Common as is this belief among ignorant peoples, the world over, it has had a peculiar ethical development in China, where the spirits reward and punish, and are the means even for the detection of secret vice and crime. In the opinion of our author, this doctrine undoubtedly exercises a mighty and salutary influence upon morals. It insures respect for human life, and charitable treatment of the infirm and aged, especially if they stand on the brink of the grave. Such virtues are even extended to animals, for, in fact, these too have souls which may work vengeance or bring reward. The firm belief in ghosts and their retributive justice deters from grievous and protracted injustice, since the wronged being, thoroughly assured of the avenging power of his own spirit when disembodied, will not seldom contrive to convert himself into a wrathful ghost by committing suicide.

The struggle against such spectres has been reduced to a science. In all ages this war has had its leaders, men of genius, magicians, priests, possessing occult experience of advance or attack, self-invented or inherited from older generations. This furnishes material for a study in the natural philosophy of the people and at the same time of the boundless sway which superstition exerts on all minds in China, from the most unlearned man in the street up to Ministers and Emperors.

The book is an amplification of these sentences, which we have taken from the introductory chapters, for even Confucianism and Taoism and Buddhism are brought under the same categories. To our author, the Chinese need nothing so much as the teaching of modern science, so that they may replace the notion of this constant activity of supernatural agents with the conception of natural law.

The book has undoubted value—better than any other upon its topic, it pictures the state of mind of the majority of the people; but it has the defects of its qualities. The author is so concerned with the lower aspects of the religion of the Chinese that he is entirely blind to its higher characteristics. One would think that even a cursory reading of the classics would have led him to different conclusions. To him the Chinese mind has never appreciated the thought of disinterested virtue, though both Confucius and Mencius insist upon it. Confucius is made the minister of a debased polydemonism, although he was extremely restrained in his utterances concerning the spirits, there being three things concerning which the master would not speak, miracles, feats of strength, and the spirits. He also tells us that we should keep the spirits at a distance and further that, though heaven is the proper object of worship, it is so cold and distant that people turn to worship of the spirits and of demons. It is plain that in his day polydemonism was rife, and doubtless he shared to some extent in the popular views, but, without denying the existence of these supernatural agencies, he exerted the whole of his influence against the cultivation of the common cult. The writings of educated Confucianists follow the example of the master. They insist that against the instructed mind, the spirits have no power.

Professor De Groot's book should be renamed "The Superstitions of the Chinese," for its present title is a misnomer. It conveys an entirely false impression when it is set forth as the creed of the intelligent followers of China's great sage.

The Valley of Aosta. A Description and Historical Sketch of an Alpine Valley Noteworthy in Story and in Monument. By Felice Ferrero. Illustrations and Maps. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. $2 net.

This is not one of the ordinary books of travel written round a collection of snapshot illustrations; it is a really comprehensive description of one of the most famous valleys in Italy. Signor Ferrero treats his subject on all sides—the geological, the geographical, the historical, the sociological, the picturesque, and the Alpinist. But although he has primed himself with the necessary knowledge, he writes fluently and entertainingly, much as a traveller with a gift for narration would talk.

One of the most interesting sections of his book refers to Roman times. Aosta, we need hardly say, is the modern form of Augusta named after Augustus, who ordered its founding and erection. Built at one stroke, as many of our prairie towns have been built, Augusta Prætoria furnishes an excellent example of the typical Roman method of laying out towns, and the many ruins still extant there make it possible to trace the original lines. Less familiar is Signor Ferrero's account of travel in ancient times, and of the consular roads that led through the valleys and over the Alps. The mere statement that parties of English pilgrims were stoned to death by Saracen bandits on the Mont Cenis early in the tenth century is a clue to much history.

The author describes the Valdostans of to-day from his personal knowledge. They are still a sturdy people, as independent and devout as their neighbors, the Waldensians, but Catholics instead of Primitive Christians. Signor Ferrero discusses such interesting puzzles as the origin of the Gressoney Germans, and the cause of cretinism; but the general reader may find his chapters on mountaineering more absorbing; for he goes into sufficient details to be of use to prospective climbers. He tells again the story of famous exploits, including Whymper's first ascent of the Matterhorn; and he draws pen pictures of some of the great peaks and scenes. Fi-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

nally, he unfolds a store of legends, which are intertwined with mediæval and recent history.

The valley had its grandees—the lords of Challant—in constant conflict with their suzerains, the Dukes of Savoy. It has harbored many celebrities, from Calvin, who seems to have hoped to try there his experiment in theocracy, to Cavour, who as a young officer suspected of Liberalism was relegated to the fortress of Bard. (This latter fact, by the way, Signor Ferrero has overlooked.) Calvin's stay at Aosta was brief, but so memorable that the valley-folk still call a local wind that blows regularly from eleven till four every day "Calvin's wind," and the town cross, erected to commemorate Calvin's flight, still stands. But perhaps the most poignant memory is connected with Guasco, who, having caught leprosy, was isolated for many years in the Tower of Terrors, and immortalized by De Maistre. The romances of the Challants, though not lacking in characteristic Renaissance passion and catastrophe, offer nothing so tragic as Guasco's fate.

We have dipped here and there into the bountiful contents of Signor Ferrero's book in order to show how variedly interesting they are. He writes in a sprightly style. We have discovered no serious omission. A Piedmontese might perhaps expect to find some mention of the Aosta Brigade, which has a conspicuous place in Piedmontese military annals, but it early ceased to be recruited exclusively from Valdostans. So the reader, touched by the tragic story of Bianca di Challant, might like to be reminded that Luini painted her beautiful face in one of his frescoes at Milan. These, however, are trifles. The book is a good book, and its many views and maps serve to extend the usefulness and attractions of the text.

Astir, A Publisher's Life-Story. By John Adams Thayer. Boston: Small, Maynard & Co. $1.20 net.

In that world whose twin divinities are Circulation and Advertising, Mr. Thayer has played a conspicuous and honorable part. Since paid puffery on a gigantic scale is one of the most characteristic activities of our times, Mr. Thayer's review of his successes is uncommonly instructive. He is an advocate and exemplar of the traditional gospel of work, with the improvement that the effort must be as clever as it is strenuous. In his early 'teens, our author was editor, printer, and publisher, and, though the term was not then invented, advertising manager of his own paper. Soon he became a union printer; thereafter, a clerk and travelling salesman for a typefounding concern. In ten years, he must have served as many employers, always following some slight increase of salary.

His chance came with the rehabilitation of the *Ladies' Home Journal*, of which he undertook the advertising department. The conditions of his great success seem simple in retrospect: he established uniform, that is honest, rates, and by excluding fraudulent or merely flashy announcements raised the tone and value of the advertising pages. This work he continued later on that widely circulated periodical, the *Delineator*, and his precept and example were doubtless potent in inducing other magazines to purge their paid announcements. He possibly assumes in this matter an undue originality. Many newspapers habitually censored their advertisements, both with regard to veracity and display, long before Mr. Thayer cleaned house for the *Ladies' Home Journal*. An important feature of his success was the extension of his direct influence over the advertisers. In fact the office of advertising manager, which he first bore, has come to exemplify a delicate sort of double agency more consistent with Latin notions of agency than with our own.

Parting from the *Ladies' Home Journal* on an issue of money, Mr. Thayer was called to be the right-hand man of Frank Munsey. For a month, according to directions, the new lieutenant "breathed the air of the office" and was observed. At the end of this brief probation, he received a letter expressing disappointment. Mr. Munsey could find in him neither the elements of "genius" nor capacity to be "a great big salaried man." The whole correspondence is a literary curiosity, for its bandying of large words, its implications of mysterious springs of power in publishers, its essentially personal and romantic attitude toward what a layman would suppose to be a matter of demonstration.

Mr. Thayer's apogee was recorded by *Everybody's Magazine* which was borne into fame by the cometary muck-raker, Thomas Lawson. Long before this charge was assumed, Mr. Thayer cast yearning eyes upon the *Atlantic Monthly*, but was baffled by the inexplicable conservatism of its proprietors. Had he succeeded we might have had the privilege of reading "Frenzied Finance" in the magazine that had once welcomed the "Autocrat."

On the whole, Mr. Thayer makes an impression of singularly narrow intensity. His imagination, highly developed along business lines, seems hard and insensitive elsewhere. Oddly enough, his probity, too, is specialized and asks no collateral questions. His certainty that the literary part of any magazine is merely secondary to its advertising is accompanied by a sort of moral myopia. He freely communicates some of the foibles of Thomas Lawson and his interested motives in the famous exposures of Wall Street. Now on any basis of genuine morals, it was quite as questionable to print Mr. Lawson's blend of vulgarity, sensationalism, half-truth, and conscious misrepresentation, as it would have been to accept advertising from a semi-poisonous nostrum. We seem to reach the ultimate incongruity that a punctilious and financially successful advertising policy may best be based on a rather lax and unscrupulous editorial policy. You must, in short, cheat people's brains, in order honorably to reach their pocketbooks. These are incidental lines of casuistry, suggested by Mr. Thayer's breezy and entertaining confessions.

Family Names and Their Story. By S. Baring-Gould, M.A. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. $3 net.

Among Mr. Baring-Gould's many hobbies that have found lodgment in printed form, and one may not guess how many others are still inarticulate, must now be included family nomenclature. In a work of over four hundred pages, entitled "Family Names and Their Story," that versatile author and compiler has gathered a mass of information, gossip, and stories, collected in the course of a long life and omnivorous reading, that without pretensions to scholarship are, in a way, both entertaining and enlightening. The derivations appear to be reliable, though one would have to be an expert in many fields of etymology, genealogy, and history to be sure that all the statements are correct, and it is quite possible that Dr. Bradley and Messrs. Round, Stevenson, and Barron would make short work of some of the origins of family names that Mr. Baring-Gould presents here with so much confidence. It must, however, be acknowledged that the latter is no accepter of fictitious genealogies, folk tales, and vulgar etymologies, but can wield the whip of criticism and denounce the older authorities with vigor. Within the field familiar to the writer of this notice there are no serious errors, though there is much looseness of phraseology in describing social conditions of the English past and an entire want of the scholar's touch throughout. Much of the book must have been written in the eighties or early nineties of the last century, as the historical atmosphere is characteristic of that period.

Accompanying the serious matter of the book and inextricably woven with it is the compiler's commentary, which reads like the after-dinner conversation of a clever *raconteur* entertaining a company over the wine and walnuts. Stories, personal experiences, incidents connected with the host's family, servants, tenants, and tradesmen, various jibes and comments, sometimes harmless, sometimes spiteful, as in the remarks on the Huguenot refugee parsons in England, sometimes amusing and sometimes, it must be confessed, rather

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

undignified, follow one another with great rapidity. Occasionally, the jests are designed as a passing substitute for wit, as in the case of Miss Muffet and the Tootles family, while a good deal of space is taken up with matter thrown in to relieve what the author believes to be the tedium of the subject (for example, Gilbert's "The Yarn of the Nancy Bell," entire). A few flings at America show that the Mr. Baring-Gould is still living in the days of the Dean of St. Paul, and so prone is he to get everything about America wrong that he even makes Sir George Prévost, British officer during the Revolution, take on a new title and rise to be commander-in-chief of the forces in North America, apparently, if we read Mr. Baring-Gould aright, playing the part of Burgoyne at Saratoga. More extraordinary still is a statement which we give, in our author's own words, as they cannot be improved upon: "When the settlers in America broke their tie to the mother country, they burnt the records of their family that told of their connection with their old home, and now many an American family would pay thousands of dollars to recover the records proving their link with the old land" (p. 396). So America was settled by the members of a single family the records of which are destroyed! No wonder that we have so much difficulty with our Anglo-American family connections.

Fifty Years in Camp and Field: Diary of Major-Gen. Ethan Allen Hitchcock, U. S. A. Edited by W. A. Croffut, Ph.D. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, $4 net.

In introducing his rather inconspicuous hero, Dr. Croffut out-Knickerbockers the venerable Diedrich himself, whose profound account of the creation we all remember, in the preface to his history of New York. In six preliminary chapters, Dr. Croffut details the story of Vermont, from the Azoic period to the present, establishing beyond all cavil the General's relationship with the trilobites from the Laurentian upheaval on. But we hasten to say that except this one lapse toward irrelevancy, Dr. Croffut has done his work well. His narrative is a well-spun and unobtrusive thread connecting large extracts from a diary of unusual interest.

If Gen. Hitchcock was inconspicuous, it was through lack of good fortune, not of merit. His family is eminent. Ethan Allen of Ticonderoga was his grandfather; his elder brother, who went South from Vermont, became chief justice of Alabama; one nephew, Henry, was long the leader of the bar in Missouri, and another was the able secretary of the interior under McKinley and Roosevelt. Hitchcock graduated from West Point in 1817, but with short interruptions, he remained as an instructor until 1833, promoting greatly the efficiency of the Academy by his service. Later, he took part as a staff-officer in the Seminole and other Indian wars, and was inspector-general of Scott's army in the advance upon Mexico. He had a good practical head, and probably surpassed all his associates in military science. Scott himself was generously willing to credit his capable aide in large measure with his success. Hitchcock's sense of justice was strong; his conscience being ill at ease in the wars with the Indians and with Mexico.

In the civil war, when he was too old and too ill to partake in active service, Hitchcock was employed as counsellor to Lincoln and Stanton; although, as the diary reveals, his advice was too often neglected. But his ability was always recognized, and at one time he had the chance to supersede Grant, which he refused. In the spring of 1862 he urged the folly of a divided command in the West, with the result that Buell was at hand to help Grant at Shiloh, on the evening of April 6. He was, also, wise enough in the same spring to see that Banks should not be weakened in the Shenandoah Valley, that Blenker's division should be retained to cover Washington, and that McDowell's corps should be left unhampered for service toward Richmond. If this advice had been followed, Stonewall Jackson would not have swept down to the Potomac, and the capture of Richmond would not have been so long deferred. Besides acting as counsellor, he was finally charged with the duty, always delicate and often painful, of supervising the management and exchange of prisoners and the conduct of courts-martial.

His diary, which covers the period from Monroe to Grant, and which shows him very frequently in contact with public men and events, is of great value. Hitchcock enjoyed some years of honored retirement after the civil war. Not until then did he marry. In spite of his infirmities, his life was prolonged until 1870. There was in Hitchcock a persistent fondness for abstract thought. He was a disciple of Spinoza and Emerson, and wrote eight books dealing mainly with the Hermetic philosophy.

Notes.

"A History of the French Academy," by D. Maclaren Robertson, is promised by G. W. Dillingham Company.

Prof. Pasquale Villari's "Mediæval Italy" has been translated by his daughter, Mrs. Hulton, and will be published by Fisher Unwin early in the autumn.

Prof. W. Macneile Dixon is preparing an "Edinburgh Book of Scottish Verse."

The publication of Katherine Cecil Thurston's "Max" is set by Harper & Brothers for September.

Methuen is publishing Dr. G. Walter Steeves's "Francis Bacon: a Sketch of his Life, Works, and Literary Friends, chiefly from a Bibliographical Point of View."

"Early Christianity in Great Britain," from the time of the Roman occupation to Augustine, is a forthcoming book by Prof. Hugh Williams.

"Tacitus's Histories, Books I and II," edited by Prof. Frank G. Moore, and "Cicero's Letters," selected and edited by Dr. Ernst Riess, will soon be added to Macmillan's Latin Classics Series.

A book concerning the derivation of Arabic numerals, by Dr. David Eugene Smith and Louis Karpinski, is on the press of Ginn & Co., who also announce a volume of selections from Lincoln, prepared by Ida M. Tarbell.

Among the books in preparation by Sturgis & Walton Company are "Memoirs of the Duc de Lauzun"; "Recollections of an Officer of Napoleon's Army," by Capt. E. Blaize; "Memoirs Relating to Fouché, Minister of Police Under Napoleon," and "Memoirs Relating to the Empress Josephine," by Georgette Ducrest.

"The Function of the Church in Modern Society," by William Jewett Tucker, former president of Dartmouth College, will be brought out by Houghton Mifflin Company. The same firm will publish "A Beginner's History of Philosophy," by Prof. Herbert E. Cushman of Tufts College; Book IV in the series of "Children's Classics in Dramatic Form," by Augusta Stevenson, and a volume containing some of James Parton's biographies of great captains of industry.

Autumn announcements of the Putnams include: "Master of the Vineyard," by Myrtle Reed; "The Sword of the Mountains," by Alice MacGowan; "My Memoirs," reminiscences of the late Princess Caroline Murat; a second series of "Where Ghosts Walk," by Marion Harland; "Hypnotism and Suggestion in Daily Life, Education, and Medical Practice," by Dr. Bernard Hollander; "Romance of Imperial Rome," by Elizabeth W. Champney; "Cathedrals and Cloisters of the Isle-de-France," by Elise W. Rose and Vida Hunt Francis; "Controversial Issues in Scottish History," by William H. Grey; "The Wilderness Trail," by Charles A. Hanna; "Protestant Modernism, or Religious Thinking for Thinking Men," by David C. Torrey; an edition of "A Sentimental Journey," with water-color drawings by Everard Hopkins; "Frederick William Maitland," by H. A. L. Fisher, and "The Steam Engine and Other Heat Engines," by J. A. Ewing.

Henry Holt & Co. announce: Non-Fiction: Henri Bergson's "Creative Evolution," translated from the French by Arthur Mitchell; Lovat Fraser's "India Under Curzon and After"; Leading American Men of Science, (edited by David Starr Jordan): "Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford," by Edwin E. Slosson; "Alexander Wilson," by Witmer Stone; "John James Audubon," by Witmer Stone; "Benjamin Silliman," by Daniel Coit Gilman; "Joseph Henry," by Simon Newcomb; "Louis Agassiz," by Charles Frederick Holder; "Jeffries Wyman," by Burt G. Wilder; "Asa Gray," by John M. Coulter; "James Dwight Dana," by William North Rice; "Spencer Fullerton Baird," by Charles Frederick Holder; "Othniel Charles Marsh," by George Bird

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Grinnell; "Edward Drinker Cope," by Marcus Benjamin; "Josiah Willard Gibbs," by Edwin E. Slosson; "Simon Newcomb," by Marcus Benjamin; "George Brown Goode," by David Starr Jordan; "Henry Augustus Rowland," by Ira Remsen, and "William Keith Brooks," by E. A. Andrews; Oscar Kuhn's "The Love of Books and Reading"; Wilhelm Ostwald's "Natural Philosophy," translated by Thomas Seltzer; Martin Schütze's "Judith." Fiction: William De Morgan's "An Affair of Dishonor"; Inez Haynes Gillmore's "Phœbe and Ernest"; S. Carleton Jones's "Out of Drowning Valley"; John Mätter's "Once"; Romain Rolland's "Jean Christophe," first four volumes, translated by Gilbert Cannan.

A novel experiment in lexicography, undertaken by some Franciscan Fathers, is "An Ethnologic Dictionary of the Navajo Language" (Saint Michaels, Ariz.: The Franciscan Fathers). Their method is to describe all natural objects, diseases, modes of giving names to persons and places, animals, industrial occupations, and religious and other social customs, and to give the words and phrases appertaining to each individual thing. The material has been collected, they say, mainly by their own observations, though they have consulted the works of Washington Matthews and other authorities. The mass of facts thus presented is very large, and much light is thrown on the social culture of the Navajos. There is, for example, an elaborate description of the ritual dances; and, on another side of life, a full account of how lice are dealt with. A large vocabulary is given, the pronunciation of words is indicated, and incidentally there are suggestions for grammatical principles. The bulky volume is a valuable contribution to American Indian sociology.

The stream commemorated in the handsome volume by Helen Ashe Hays, "The Antietam and Its Bridges" (Putnam), which does little more than span Maryland at the narrowest part, is only mildly picturesque, and, excepting for the years 1862 and 1863, is only faintly interesting in its associations. It is crossed by a dozen or so bridges, in which the country masons, building wiser than they knew, achieved for their arches a certain artless grace. On the one occasion when it emerged from the placid, pastoral obscurity of earlier and later days, it gave its name to an engagement which, since it justified to Lincoln the issuing of the Emancipation Proclamation, may cause it to be held in the future as the memorable battle of our civil war. The author describes at too great length the rather torpid life that had its theatre on the quiet banks, and the building of the bridges. She misses a fine opportunity. What a chance for absorbing Erckmann-Chatrian pictures in the vast warlike tumult which the sleepy valley for once in its history underwent! There has been in modern times no tragedy more solemn and momentous than that which rolled for a moment into the experience of those remote and plodding farmers. What said and did the peaceful millers on whose wide floors the armies bivouacked and stretched their wounded? What the toll-keepers and their wives when the cannon tore through their bars? What the quaint worshippers at the Dunker Church, broad-skirted men, poke-bonneted women, when Stonewall Jackson was stemming there the Federal assault? This book is not quite silent about these things: they receive no emphasis, however, in the prolix record, being deferred to the elaborate detail of small rural happenings.

Somewhat more than ten years ago permission was accorded the Historical Manuscripts Commission of Great Britain to begin the calendaring of the great collection of Stuart manuscripts preserved at Windsor Castle. After the first three volumes of calendars had been issued, in 1902, 1904, 1907, respectively, important additional documents were discovered belonging to the period 1687-1716, which had already been covered in volumes one and two. It was, therefore, decided to calendar this supplemental material before going on with the main work, and to issue it as the first part of volume four. This fourth volume has now appeared; it consists of eighty-eight pages of additions, four hundred and seventy-five pages of new material, and an appendix of seven pages containing still other papers which were discovered too late for insertion in their proper places in this and the preceding volumes. It is no unimportant by-product of the work of the commission that private collections of manuscripts, frequently neglected by their owners, are being properly arranged and classified by specially deputed archival experts. The searching and critical examination to which these collections are subjected is of profit, not only to the scholar who uses the calendar, but also to the owners of the manuscripts, and to many others. Thus, in an indirect manner, the private archives of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales are undergoing inspection, re-arrangement, and calendaring entirely at the public expense. The commissioners are also ready, if requested, to give their advice as to the best means of repairing and preserving any interesting papers or manuscripts which may be in a state of decay. The bulk of the papers calendared in this volume cover but six months of the year 1717. They give an account of the journey of the Pretender, James III, from Asti, in Piedmont, where he was at the close of the third volume, into Italy; of his first visit to Rome, and of his settlement at Urbino. They throw considerable light on the negotiations between the Jacobites in England and the Czar, thus supplementing the similar negotiations with Sweden described in the previous volume, and they show that Dr. Erskine, Mar's cousin, and the physician and confidant of Peter the Great, had advanced much further in these negotiations than has commonly been supposed. Peter was at this time in Holland and France, and the Jacobites hoped that Sweden and Russia, and possibly the Empire, would support their cause. The main subject of the papers is Jacobite intrigue, but here and there are helps to an understanding of constitutional questions in England and of some puzzling political personalities. On p. 539 is a letter from the sister of James Oglethorpe, recounting his experiences fighting the Turks near Belgrade, under Prince Eugene, and there are other scattered references to the Oglethorpe family. Occasionally we get glimpses of the plantations, but the view is of minor happenings. On p. 28 is a mention of "the Quakers, as are called Pennites, many of [whom] being men of consideration and as ready to a restoration [of the Stuarts] as any."

Andrew Macphail's four "Essays in Fallacy" (Longmans) deserve the old-fashioned name of treatises or disquisitions. It takes fifty-five pages to settle the business of the American Woman; the Suffragette, Education, and Theology require more. Mr. Macphail is a professional exposer of nonsense, which he finds enthroned especially in rebellious womanhood, in the American school and university, and in all theological councils. His manner is vigorous, but impatient and lacking in amenity. With many of his views, we are in sympathy. No one has punctured more forcibly the fallacy of utilitarianism as a university ideal; in his discussion of ultimate discrepancies of sex, there is much drastic good sense. But the value of his pleading is constantly diminished by lapses in taste and indulgence in overstatement. From a quotation, Mr. Macphail's animated but undistinguished style may be judged, and the passage has as well a confessional value none the less marked because quite unconscious:

> Their real enemies [those of the suffragettes] are those of their own household, who hate to see this revelation that women make of themselves, which affords to vulgar satirists congenial exercise of their irony and scoff, for the torment or amusement of those who, like themselves, by continually regarding humanity as it is, have developed a capacity for analysis at the expense of a certain dryness and hardness of heart.

Out of Mr. Macphail's own mouth may be judged whether his is a spell to exorcise the triform demon of feminism, Americanism, and theological dogmatism. Stylistically, it is fair to say, the extract represents him pretty nearly at his worst. Frequently he is pungent, and generally he is not bad reading, but his bludgeoning tactics indicate quite as much blunt perceptions as vigorous convictions.

David W. Amram's "The Makers of Hebrew Books in Italy" (Philadelphia: Julius H. Greenstone) is a handsomely printed and carefully prepared work of more than four hundred pages. It is modestly termed "chapters in the history of the Hebrew printing press"; but readers who are interested in the early records of printing and who have some idea of the services of the Italian pioneers in the art, will find in Mr. Amram's volume a fairly exhaustive study of the subject, so far as the Hebrew printers are concerned. From the first known workers, Abraham ben Garton of Reggio and Meshullam Cusi of Pieve, to Abraham Conat of Mantua, whose wife Estellina was his associate in the craft, and Abraham the Dyer of Pesaro; from Soncino and his sons to Bomberg, Adelkind, and a host of minor presses, it is a story of continuous struggle with more or less adverse conditions and of signally successful achievement. That the art should have attained its highest perfection at its very beginning proves that the pioneers were scholars as well as printers, admirably equipped and full of an enthusiasm that no obstacle would dampen. The readableness of Mr. Amram's work is enhanced, without impairing its usefulness, by his study of the historical background. If he has given special attention to the services of the early Jewish

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

printers, who made accessible books studied by generations of scholars, he is as warm in his praise of the Christian craftsmen who introduced a new element in the intellectual life of the time; it was the Benedictine monks, he observes, "who saved Italy from intellectual barbarism."

No. VI, Part 3, of the Gibb Memorial Series contains Vol. iii, Part i, of the Arabic text of Yaqut's "Dictionary of Learned Men," edited by Prof. D. S. Margoliouth (London: Luzac & Co.); vol. i is noticed in the *Nation* for June 18, 1908. This half volume concludes the matter contained in the Bodleian MS. marked Or. 753. A MS. with additional matter has been placed at the editor's disposal, and he appeals to friends to aid in the search for the remainder of this important work; vol. iv of the Bombay copy is probably, he thinks, in private hands in India. The editor's method is the same in this part as in those previously issued.

The appearance of "A Guide to the Antiquities of Upper Egypt from Abydos to the Sudan Frontier" (Macmillan), at this season of the year seems somewhat out of place. But it will be a welcome addition to the literature of the subject for the serious student or traveller who is contemplating a trip during the coming winter and who is wisely doing extensive reading in anticipation. The writer of the volume is Arthur E. P. Weigall, the inspector-general of Upper Egypt for the department of antiquities of the Egyptian government. It would be difficult to find a more competent authority on the subjects which he treats. Long service and intimate acquaintance at first hand with the places and objects described constitute claims which none can gainsay. The descriptions given by Steindorff in the Baedeker series are accurate and trustworthy, but they are necessarily brief and more condensed than those of Weigall. The latter has also included many sites where excavations have been carried on, which fall outside of the scope of Baedeker, since they are places which the ordinary tourist does not find it possible to visit on account of the necessary limitations in the itinerary of the Cook and other excursion boats. All of the descriptions have been written on the spot, with the places under the writer's eye and observation. Particularly full are the accounts of Abydos, Denderah, Thebes, including Luxor, Karnak, Deir el Bahari, the Valley of the Kings, and the surroundings of the Ramesseum, Esneh, Edfu, Kom Ombo, Assuan and Elephantine, Philae, and Abu Simbel, all of which are included in the usual itinerary, and nearly all of which can be reached by railway as well. One can only regret that the volume does not include the places north of Abydos also, particularly Assiut, Beni Hasan, Tell el-Amarna, Saqqarah, and Gizeh. The cost and at the same time the value of the volume would have been much increased if it had been illustrated with half-tones as well as by temple plans. The type is small but clear, and the book is one that can be readily carried on the trip.

The total number of students enrolled in the Swiss universities during the past semester was 6,991. Of these 3,141, or 45 per cent., were natives of Switzerland, while 3,850, or 55 per cent., were foreigners, which is a greater showing of foreign students than that made by any university outside of Switzerland. Of these outsiders about 30 per cent. were Russians, 8 per cent. Germans, and 2 per cent. French. Geneva is scarcely a Swiss university, as its foreign element amounts to 80 per cent.; that of Basel is only 20 per cent. According to faculties the student body was distributed as follows: theology 442, law 1,325, medicine 2,236, philosophical disciplines 2,988. In addition there were 1,884 irregular residents, or "hearers," making a total of 8,875, inclusive of 2,761 women, of whom 1,646 were matriculated. The total teaching force was 860, of whom 359 were full professors and 154 adjunct, or "extraordinary," professors. Bern leads in attendance, with an enrolment of 1,626 students, while Neuchâtel is last on the list, with 186.

William James of Harvard University, professor of philosophy, emeritus, died at his summer home at Lake Chocorua last Friday. He had been critically ill since his arrival at Quebec from Europe the previous week. William James was born in New York city on January 11, 1842. At the age of thirteen he was taken abroad, where he remained three years, studying under tutors, and in schools in France and England. He then studied painting with William M. Hunt at Newport, R. I., and spent a winter at the Academy of Geneva, finally entering the chemical department of the Lawrence Scientific School in 1861. He did not remain to take his degree, but entered the Harvard Medical School in 1863, taking his M.D. six years later. While still a medical student he accompanied Prof. Louis Agassiz's Thayer expedition to Brazil in 1864 and in 1867 studied physiology in Berlin. In 1872 he became instructor in vertebrate anatomy and physiology in the college. From 1880 to 1885 he was assistant professor of philosophy; from 1885 to 1889 professor in the same department; professor of psychology from 1889 to 1897, and professor of philosophy from 1897 to 1907, when he became professor emeritus. In the period 1899-1901 he was appointed Gifford lecturer on natural religion at the University of Edinburgh, and in 1908 Hibbert lecturer on philosophy at Oxford. He was a corresponding member of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences of the Institute of France, of the Royal Prussian Academy of Sciences, of the Royal Denmark Academy of Sciences, of the Acaddemia de Lincei, of the British Academy, National Academy of Sciences, etc. Among the honorary degrees conferred upon him were the Ph.D. and Litt.D. by the University of Padua; the LL.D. by Princeton, Edinburgh, and Harvard, and the D.Sc. by Oxford and by Geneva. His chief works are as follows: "Principles of Psychology," "The Will to Believe, and Other Essays in Popular Philosophy," "Talks to Teachers on Psychology and to Students on Life's Ideals," "Human Immortality—Two Supposed Objections to the Doctrine," "The Varieties of Religious Experiences," "Pragmatism—A New Name for Some Old Ways of Thinking," "A Pluralistic Universe," "The Meaning of Truth." His work will be noticed at length in the *Nation* next week.

The death is reported from Baden, in his seventy-ninth year, of Heinrich Julius Holtzmann, professor of theology, first at Heidelberg, then at Strasburg. Among his writings are: "Die Pastoralbriefe," "Lehrbuch der historisch-kritischen Einleitung in das Neue Testament," and "Die synoptischen Evangelien."

Science.

Edelsteinkunde. Von Dr. Max Bauer. Pp. xvi, 766; 20 plates in color; 115 illustrations in the text. Leipzig: Ch. H. Tauchnitz.

This second German edition gives the result of forty years' study on the part of the author, who is founder and director of the Mineralogical Institute of Marburg, editor of the *Jahrbuch für Mineralogie*, and author of more than a hundred scientific papers. The first edition appeared in 1896, and the work has long been recognized as the foremost authority on the subject; but since the date of its original production, several new gem-stones have been discovered, and the researches of physicists and mineralogists have brought to light a number of important facts touching the constitution of various precious and semi-precious stones. All these matters are fully treated in the present work, the extent of the additions to the first edition amounting to some 55 pages.

In a treatise on precious stones it is but natural that the diamond, the king of gems, should occupy the foreground; we need not therefore be surprised that nearly 200 pages, somewhat more than a quarter of the book, are devoted to this stone. A full account is given of its occurrence in various parts of the world, embracing the latest developments in the South African diamond fields, and the recent discovery in Arkansas. While presenting so fully the facts concerning the collection and working of diamonds, Dr. Bauer has not forgotten the various and divergent theories proposed by scientists to explain the formation of the stone. The splendid corundum gems, the ruby and the sapphire, next in importance to the diamond, are also described fully, and the latest results in their production and mining are recorded. The other forms of gem-corundum are also treated at considerable length. The emerald is the subject of another section. In the present edition much new material has been added regarding the mines at Muzo, in Columbia. Though he deals fully with the principal gems, Dr. Bauer has not neglected the numerous other stones from which gems of great beauty and value have been cut in ancient and modern times. Indeed, a notable merit of his work is the care taken in gathering together all the available data regarding the newer gems, some of which have been first brought to notice in our land. The use of these semi-precious stones makes it practicable to produce color-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

contrasts not otherwise possible, and to satisfy that desire for variety which is especially characteristic of our age.

The extensive establishments for gem-cutting at Idar and Oberstein in Germany are described graphically on pages 635-645, and a number of well-executed illustrations are added. Here are cut and polished almost all the agate ornaments sold in various parts of the world, and, as Dr. Bauer says, "wherever in the world a cut and polished agate is seen the probability is that it came from the Oberstein region." A great part of the large supply of Australian opal, so highly in favor at present, is also cut in Idar, Oberstein, or their vicinity.

Among the additions to this second edition we may call attention to the new material in the account of the colored gems from the province of Minas Geraes, Brazil. Of the newer gem material found in the United States one of the most interesting examples is the benitoite, from San Benito County, Cal., a gem possessing much of the beauty of the sapphire and even greater brilliancy. The interesting discovery of peridot, in 1900, on the island of St. Johns in the Red Sea, near the Egyptian coast, is noted, and the importance of this discovery as indicating the source whence the ancient supply of peridot may have been derived.

Taken as a whole, this work is invaluable for the jeweller, the mineralogist, the student, and for all who desire to have the latest and most trustworthy information as to the gem-stones now in use. The plates, especially those in color, give any one not familiar with precious stones a more correct idea of their appearance than could possibly be attained by reading a description.

In the "Rural Life Problem of the United States" (Macmillan), Sir Horace Plunkett has written a book whose importance is not to be measured by its small size. Very briefly, from experience in Ireland and America, and from studies of European conditions, the author sets forth his observations and conclusions. The problem of better rural conditions is closely allied, he believes, to the more popular subject of Conservation, and must be solved if our country is to keep its present position. Of President Roosevelt's three means of improvement, better farming, better business, better living. Sir Horace Plunkett shows that the second must come first, proving, also, that for real success it cannot be achieved by individuals working separately. Nor will combination, which has procured such amazing business prosperity, succeed with the farming problem. It is co-operation, in societies controlled not by the majority of shares but by the majority of individuals, "one man one vote," that alone will put the farmer in a position not merely to supply his needs, but also to find them out. For such societies, once organized, will discover for their members the means to better farming and better living. By their aid success will come long before we could hope to secure it by the slow leaven of educated youth. From twenty years of Irish experiences Sir Horace Plunkett is convinced that the Raiffeisen system of credit associations, by intelligently meeting the needs of farming communities, is best suited to general conditions. Further, he is positive that the American temperament will take naturally to such associations, which he proves by our long list of unsuccessful experiments in search of rural betterment. In order to set the local units on their feet, he proposes to "hitch the Country Life wagon to the Conservation star" by means of two organizations, the one a popular propagandist association, temporary in its nature, the other an institute for research, to be permanently established. The association would organize the local bodies, put them on their feet, combine them into State leagues, and then leave them to themselves, confident that so long as they preferred coöperation to combination their success would be sure. In its propaganda the association would utilize all such existing agencies as it could find, and when its work was done, it would dissolve. The institute, on the other hand, would be permanent and almost international, collecting and classifying information on all subjects relating to the needs of the local bodies. It would, of course, require an endowment. Perhaps the best feature of this book is its acknowledgment that the farmer will never organize if left to himself, and its consequent appeal to the townsman to take the lead. The townsman can well appreciate the danger, not only to the future of the nation, but also to what touches him more nearly, present prosperity. Sir Horace Plunkett finds even in the present fad of country life hope that educated men will give the first impulse to the movement. The book is most readable, and its plan will appeal strongly to all those who know the backwardness, the inertia, and the miserable earnings of many American farmers.

From Paris is announced the death of Louis Olivier, the founder and editor of the *Revue Générale des Sciences*.

Prof. Louis-Hubert Farabeuf, whose death occurred about a fortnight ago, was born in 1841; he was an honorary member of the faculty of medicine at the University of Paris, and an officer of the Legion of Honor. He wrote a large number of treatises on medical subjects.

Charles Talbot Porter of Montclair, N. J., died in that city on Sunday. He was born in 1829, and had been an engineer all his life. Last year he was presented with the John Fritz medal, established as a recognition of notable scientific or industrial achievement. The four men who had been awarded the medal before Mr. Porter received it were Lord Kelvin, George Westinghouse, Alexander Graham Bell, and Thomas A. Edison.

Drama.

AN OVERWORKED THEORY IN DRAMA.

Two able and interesting works published in the last year, "The Study of the Drama," by Prof. Brander Matthews, and "The Theory of the Theatre," by Clayton Hamilton, have agreed in giving marked emphasis and cordial support to the now popular theory that the drama is conditioned by the stage. That the drama in a general way has been influenced by the stage no one, I suppose, has ever doubted; the point of novelty in the recent view is the attempt to trace the effects of the specific stage on the specific drama, in other words, to show that the peculiarities of the stage settings of a given time and place have their counterpart in the peculiarities of the drama current in that time and place. The problem has interest enough to justify a survey of the evidence.

I.

The case is nowhere put more clearly and forcibly than by Professor Matthews in his treatment of the Greek theatre. I shall quote one passage as a favorable specimen of the nature and the strength of the evidence by which the theory is supported.

It has been asserted that more than twenty thousand spectators could be present at a performance. As we sit on those benches to-day, and glance down the orchestra and see how small a single figure looks so far away, and how impossible it is to perceive any play of feature, we are not surprised that the Greek actors were raised on lofty boots and wore masks that towered above their heads, increasing their apparent stature. We recognize that under such circumstances the dramatist was wise to avoid all acts of physical violence impossible to performers thus accoutred. We perceive that he was well advised when he preferred a plot already familiar to his spectators, so that they would not lose the thread of the story, even if a sudden gust of wind from the Ægean might now and again wrap the floating draperies about the heads of the performers and for a moment deprive the audience of the spoken words. We can approve also his practical shrewdness in choosing a theme not only already known in its outline, but also possessing a bold simplicity, which demanded a massive treatment.

In another passage on The Three Unities, Professor Matthews explains the observance of the unity of place in Greek tragedy on the traditional ground that the permanence of the chorus in the orchestra made variations of scene impossible.

In these two passages four important traits of Greek tragedy—the avoidance of open violence, the traditional and familiar plot, the simplicity and massiveness of treatment, and the unity of place—are referred to well-marked features of the Greek setting: the rigidity of the actors, the distance of the audience, and the stability of the chorus. Furthermore, a feature of equipment, the high boots and masks, is referred to the size of the theatre. The points are definite and the style clear; the theory nowhere appears to better advantage.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

A question, however, suggests itself to the half convinced reader. The Old Comedy, the comedy of Aristophanes, was acted in the same theatre with tragedy, under almost identical conditions. The results of environment should apply equally to both, yet comedy lacks nearly every one of the traits ascribed in the above paragraphs to tragedy. The comic actor did not wear a high boot, but a low slipper. The comic plot was not familiar or traditional, but dealt with unprescribed and novel matter. The comic treatment was not simple and massive, but showed a riotous fulness and an exuberant disorder. The comic method did not observe strictly the unity of place, but was so frequent and audacious in its shifts as to lead one scholar to declare that "all considerations of time and place were disregarded." These are facts that induce reflections.

Reflection is a perilous indulgence; once started, it is difficult to arrest. The reader's thoughts turn to the argument which explains the absence of battle, murder, and sudden death on the Greek stage by the use of a high boot unsuited to violence or swift movement. This is very much as if one were to account for a young woman's habitual abstinence from dancing or lawn tennis on the theory that she did not wear dancing slippers or tennis shoes. One can imagine the hoots, not to say the missiles, with which an Elizabethan audience, complaining of the absence of the expected siege and battle scenes in "Henry V," would have received the explanation that the shoes of the actors disqualified them for taking part in scenes of combat. The aid of St. Crispin would have been promptly invoked in a manner quite different from that of the English king. Men adapt dress to service, on the stage and off; and if deeds of blood had been wanted in the theatre of Dionysos as they were wanted in the Globe or the Curtain, it is safe to say that the boots would have been shaped to meet the demand. It is doubtful, moreover, whether even for purposes of mere visual distinctness the very moderate gain in size secured by the high boot and the projecting mask would not have been more than offset by the loss in freedom and flexibility of movement.

We are told that the theatre was so large, and sight and hearing so uncertain, that the dramatist was led to use old plots from the difficulty of elucidating new ones. How are we to reconcile the intellectual subtlety, the firmness of detail, the delicacy of suggestion, in the Greek treatment of tragic themes, with conditions which made the conveyance of the outlines of a bare plot a matter of difficulty and uncertainty?

We are told that the bold simplicity and massiveness of treatment in Greek tragedy was an effect of the size of the auditorium. How are we to account for the appearance of this same simplicity and massiveness in Greek architecture, Greek sculpture, Greek historical narrative, on which conditions of representation would exert no influence?

II.

The presence or absence of stage scenery is a point on which the advocates of the mechanism theory are never weary of descanting, but the facts which they cite have a curious way of playing into the hands of their opponents. We are told that there was no provision for change of scene on the Elizabethan stage, and forthwith we are intrepidly assured that Shakespeare and his colleagues shifted localities as often as they liked. We are told that in the days of Molière painted scenery was available in the theatres; yet, almost in the same breath, we are informed that Molière in most of his plays adhered to the uniform setting. The inference would be that Shakespeare and Molière, each in his own way, displayed a disdainful indifference to the stage machinery of his own time; the one flouted its handicaps, while the other repelled its invitations.

It would be inaccurate, however, to assert that the Elizabethan stage was marked by any preëminent unfitness for the exhibition of varieties of place. The truth is that it held a medial position between the extremes of fitness and unfitness. The best stage for shifts of place is that which offers most helps to the imagination, and the second-best is that which offers fewest hindrances. The ideal condition is that which supplies an appropriate setting for each scene; next to this in desirability is the absence of any setting whatever; a bare raised platform, after the Elizabethan fashion, or a bare central hollow according to the Greek plan, as recently conceived, would, in the absence of furniture and background, have furthered rather than hindered the imagined change of place. In such a case, if the dramatist's affirmation that the scene is a hall or street is unconfirmed, it is likewise uncontradicted. The planks of the flooring or the hardened plot of ground are not accepted as testimony, and the rows of seats and spectators are immaterial, because they lie outside of what we may call the field of imaginative vision. But introduce into this field any suggestion of a particular setting, an arbor on the platform or a portico in the background, and then shift the supposed scene to places where such an object would be irrational or incongruous, and incredulity or perplexity follows.

Costume supplies a perfect analogy. When the "Merchant of Venice" is acted with each player in appropriate costume, we are satisfied; when it is read by an elocutionist in ordinary evening dress, we are content: but, if the elocutionist were to appear in the gaberdine of Shylock, and read the parts of Antonio, Gratiano, Launcelot, and Portia, in this costume, we should be distressed and offended. The platform or the depression, without furniture or background, corresponds precisely to the neutral evening dress. Both the Greek and Elizabethan stages seem *in principle* to have been fairly well adapted to variations of dramatic place; and whatever difficulties arose in practice sprang out of infractions or invasions of this principle, out of the insertion of an architectural background by the Greeks, and the adoption or retention of the wall with doors, the balcony, curtains, and alcove by the Elizabethans. In the latter instance the presence of spectators on the stage would offer an additional obstacle. The development, in Elizabethan times, of a drama showing the widest latitude and versatility of place was probably as much hindered as helped by the stage dispositions prevailing at the period. And since, for scenical purposes, the minimum of setting ranks next in efficiency and propriety to the maximum, and since the minimum is naturally at everybody's command, there seems to be no reason why stagecraft should control drama in the point of local change.

III.

Clayton Hamilton, in "The Theory of the Theatre," chapter four, mentions three successive phases of English drama, the Drama of Rhetoric, the Drama of Conversation, and the Drama of Illusion, as dependent on three successive phases in stage history. In a single paragraph, he sums up the best known facts about the Elizabethan playhouse, the "projecting platform," the gallants on the stage, the arras and alcove, the balcony, the absence of scenery, front curtain, and artificial light. He begins his next paragraph with the following sentence: "In order to succeed in a theatre such as this, the drama was necessarily forced to be a Drama of Rhetoric."

Now, I will not stop to debate the eminently debatable question as to whether the Elizabethan drama in its entirety can be rightly called a Drama of Rhetoric with a capital R. I will not dwell on the point that rhetoric was common in every field of Elizabethan work, and that an unenclosed platform cannot be called to account for its appearance in the sonnets, in the lyrics, in the "Shepherd's Calendar," in the pamphlets, in the "Euphues," and in the "Arcadia." I will confine myself strictly to the central issue.

Let us admit that a platform stage has a distinct adaptation to the Drama of Rhetoric, and that the picture-frame stage is preferable to any other stage for the realistic or illusory drama. Is there any ground for supposing that an appetite for illusion or reality would

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

content itself with rhetoric for no better reason than its inability to obtain its illusion or reality in a picture-frame? Do the qualities apart from rhetoric or opposed to rhetoric—simplicity, directness, plain truth, native vigor, natural feeling—lose their hold on their own clientage by their transference from a box with painted sides to an unenclosed and unfurnished platform? Does nature in dialogue or delivery lose all its force merely because it is not reinforced by nature in the form of real walls and mimetic painting? That the Elizabethans found many things besides rhetoric effective from their projecting platform, we need only one testimony—the Elizabethan plays. A stage from which Macduff's "He has no children" or Cordelia's "No cause, no cause" could be effectively pronounced, was surely not "forced" into rhetoric by the collapse or powerlessness of other agencies.

From 1660 onward, according to Mr. Hamilton, the Drama of Conversation, by which he apparently means the drama of keen sayings, of wit and retort, superseded the Drama of Rhetoric. In explaining the dependence of this change on the revolution in theatrical conditions, he dwells long on the introduction of scenery. I should personally have supposed that, if there is any phase of drama which does not require scenery, it is wit; and that, if there is anything theatrical that does not involve or suggest wit, it is scenery. We may like, we may even crave, a background for a quarrel or a love-scene or a death-scene, but who asks a background for an epigram or a sally? When men quarrel or die or make love, it is easy to think of them as elements in a picture, but when they say pointed and brilliant things, the body—their only means of participation in a picture—itself retreats into the background.

In one respect alone is setting congenial to brilliant conversation—a room, an enclosure, is all but indispensable. Wit is a fine, slender, compact, incorporeal thing; it has not the body or the bigness to flourish under the open sky, or even on the open platform; the condensation and succinctness which are part of its quality it seeks, also, in its surroundings. Now, if Mr. Hamilton were able to prove that the conversation of the drama in question had been held in a boxed frame (allowing, of course, for the removal of one wall of the box) he would have made a step toward the demonstration of a harmony between the play and its setting. But this is exactly what he is unable to do; or rather he is alert to supply the data which make this view untenable. He tells us, indeed, that the stage at this period receded toward the proscenium; but it stopped, unluckily, some time before it reached the point at which its retreat would have been serviceable to Mr. Hamilton. An "apron" was left on which virtually all the acting and speaking were done, and the advantage of enclosure was as unattainable as ever.

IV.

The above review suggests the existence of three kinds of fallacy in the evidence adduced for the control of drama by the structure and equipment of the theatre.

The first fallacy is the assumption that the imagination is necessarily baffled, or even burdened, by a grave or gross logical inconsistency. One might almost ask in reply, "What is the imagination for? When should it help us out, if not when sense and logic are at a stand?" It is, indeed, a selfish and a lazy servant; it will commonly do nothing unless it is paid, and nothing until it is prompted. But it is also a very capable and powerful servant; and, when it has been both liberally paid and skilfully prompted, there is almost nothing that it cannot and will not do. It may be added, moreover, that its power has few abler expositors than Prof. Brander Matthews and Clayton Hamilton.

The second fallacy is the assumption that every mechanical arrangement or usage in past times was inelastic, immovable, and final. This is illustrated in the tacit implication that nobody can change the size of a boot or the habits of a chorus. Another example is found in the reference of the Elizabethan abstinence from the more tense and dramatic form of conclusion to the absence of a front curtain and the necessity of a public exit from the stage. One might almost as well say that a given room, otherwise available, was not used as a dining-room because it contained no table, or as a library because it contained no shelves. Men do not forego a valued purpose, because some needful appliance which chances to be familiar, accessible, and movable happens not to be on the spot at the outset. The ancestors of Watt and Edison might surely be trusted to solve any difficulty involved in the suggestion or the erection of a curtain. Wherever dress or furniture or tools are variable and in the precise measure of their variability, common sense assumes that apparatus is controlled by purpose and desire, not purpose and desire by apparatus. The opposite assumption, if pushed to an extreme, would lead us to reason that Charles Lamb read because he sat in a library, that Mark Twain smoked because he owned a pipe, that Colonel Roosevelt sailed from England to the United States because he bought a ticket, and that President Taft attends church because he has a pew.

The third fallacy is the assumption that men will prefer what is convenient but undesirable to what is desirable but inconvenient, or, briefly, that convenience outweighs appetite. The most superficial observation of one's self or one's neighbors is enough to confute this supposition. A man who prefers coffee to beer as a breakfast drink will not take beer instead of coffee, merely because a thoughtless serving-maid has supplied him with a beer schooner instead of a coffee cup. Inconvenience is, of course, a cause of pain; and there is, no doubt, a degree of pain which would neutralize the effects of the desired pleasure; but, in all ordinary cases, men take what they want with such commodity as they can. They will not refuse the sense and simplicity which they crave because it is not proffered in a picture-frame; and they will not take the rhetoric they do not want merely because it is served from a platform.

In conclusion two remarks are appropriate. The first is that nearly, if not quite, every fact in drama which it is proposed to refer to a mechanical cause may be referred without contradiction or improbability to the character of the dramatist or the nation. In other words, we are never, or very rarely, forced to accept the mechanical cause for want of a substitute. Such a compulsion might exist, if the drama of a people were found to display any trait inconsistent with the known character of that people. But, so far as I am aware, no such trait has been pointed out; no fact in Greek or French or Elizabethan drama has been adduced which is irreconcilable with our knowledge of Greek or French or Elizabethan nature. The second remark pertains to the fact that drama is, primarily and properly, an expression of the spirit; and we lose in the exact measure in which we are forced to view it as an incident of carpentry and mechanics. This is no reason for withstanding adequate proofs: it is an excellent reason for waiting until adequate proofs have been offered.

O. W. Firkins.

University of Minnesota.

Art.

DOCENT SERVICE AT THE BOSTON ART MUSEUM.

Boston, August 25.

The day has long gone by when a librarian could exclaim with glee, as a librarian of the old school is said to have done: "All the books are in to-night except two, and I am going over to get those." Likewise, the day is passing when the accumulations of museums will be accepted as a measure of their success. They will be asked what they are doing to make their accumulations tell on the community.

Years ago, the late President Gilman of the Johns Hopkins University made in conversation the suggestion that public libraries should invite representative men in various walks of life to be present at stated times in the library to help all comers to a knowledge of books in their various specialties. Art museums offer a similar opportunity. The pulpit has long ceased, even in our New Eng-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

land communities, to be the all-sufficient source of light and leading. Meanwhile, all classes of the community, church-goers and non-church-goers alike, have won leisure to devote to literature and art. Why should they not gather in libraries and museums to hear works of literature and art commented upon by those who know and love these things? In the spring of 1907, this suggestion of years before was put into practice in Boston. The Museum Bulletin announced that one of the assistants at the Museum had been assigned, with the title of Docent, to the duty of meeting visitors in the galleries and giving information about the exhibits. The service has grown from this beginning until it now occupies several of the staff during parts of every weekday, and, with the aid of speakers from outside the Museum, has been extended to Sunday also.

The one great interest present to all hearers alike, the one difficult thing to comprehend, is the faraway source of the objects before them. This deep and singular impression on almost every attentive beholder is due to nothing that a Docent can say, but to the work itself, which thereby prepares to make itself understood. A sense of beauty is as impossible to convey by word of mouth as a change of heart. Indeed, as Professor Réau has just written: "Must we not be *en état de grace* (subjects of grace as the English theologians would say) in order to understand a work of art?" In the words of Jacob Burckhardt, a Docent does not seek to "point out the fundamental idea or conception of a work of art. Were it possible to give this completely in words at all, art would be superfluous and the work might have remained unbuilt, unchiselled, and unpainted." The aim of a Docent is "to sketch outlines which the beholder's own perceptions can quicken into life."

Of course, there are many visitors who turn away listlessly. And of those who stay and who return by no means all may be really the gainers. Many may be attracted by the novelty or by an idle pleasure in something going on. One sometimes comes back from a tour of the galleries with the doubt whether, after all, it is possible to make a museum of fine art in any vital sense a popular institution. Anatole France reminds us that since life feeds on life, we are fighting against nature when we attempt to keep alive in museums the outward forms in which the ideals of past civilizations have expressed themselves. The after-world for them consists only of fewer and fewer learned men. Are museums, then, doing the general public any real service when they collect objects out of date with the intention of allowing them to become more and more so?

Against so formidable a doubt, the only safety is an appeal to facts. We must seek actual observation as to the capacity of men in general to get good out of the remains of bygone art. We know that the museum is a favorite weekly resort for all classes. What more can it do to help all its visitors to that share in the life of the imagination which is every one's birthright? That it can do much more seems not unlikely.

But at once other doubts arise. We are told that talk about the subjects of pictures and statues and upon the men and times that produced them does not elevate, but flatters, the public taste. Let it be replied frankly that this opinion is due to defective æsthetics and an altogether mistaken psychology. Defective æsthetics, because the subject of a work of art unquestionably is a part of its artistic content; else a painting of an ash-heap might rival a portrait in artistic rank. The fifteenth-century Italians who knew something of fine art in practice, however unmindful of its theory, had no other word than stories (*istorie*) for the sculptured reliefs that have since been the admiration of the world. Mistaken psychologically, because to disapprove of using the historical interest of works of art as a help to their appreciation is to ignore the pre-eminent value of indirect mental access. Every nursery teaches that there is many a true and needed word that can be spoken only in jest. In diplomacy what has not the *salon* wrought, and in business the smoking-room and the yachting party? Every astronomer knows that fainter objects of the sky can be seen only if the eye is directed a little aside. So it is with the more delicate factors with which the artist works. While a historical picture is building itself up in the mind of the hearer, is not his eye opened to the forms and proportions, the balance, and the harmony before him? And will not his attention take in these elements quite as well if thus held near as it would if turned directly upon them? What else do the fables of Cupid and Psyche, and of Lohengrin and Elsa mean than that sources of happiness too curiously inquired into are apt to fail us?

The Docent Service has been organized at the Boston Museum to meet the common experience of travellers. Any one who has ever looked at a picture or a statue in the company of an appreciative friend knows how much the comprehension of it can be aided by the communication of another's interest and information. Tennyson's lines express the idea:

> And what delights can equal those
> That stir the spirit's inner deeps
> When one that loves, but knows not, reaps
> A truth from one that loves and knows.

But, on the other hand, every one who has visited places of interest like Warwick Castle, where the "h'inlaid h'arms is very beautiful," or the tombs of the Scaligers described by Anstey's amusing Italian as "very grazioso, molto magnifique, joli conservé," knows also what unutterable weariness results from the companionship of most professional guides. The Italian word *Cicerone*—fuller of words than Cicero himself—expresses the tedium of generations of travellers. Granting the fact that it is fatal to make a business of talking about art, nevertheless it remains true that those who have already made friends with works of art may profitably be asked to devote a fraction of their time in introducing others to the same friendship. This is what has been done at the Boston Museum. A Docent is a companion among works of art, but he is also *not* a companion by profession. Docent Service is a new function of museum officials and other interested persons, not a new office in museums. That those invited to this duty should be otherwise employed during much the greater part of their time is its cardinal feature. A museum of art is full of voices worthy to be listened to, but as the deaf are often helped by other sounds, so we who wander through museum galleries often hear the silent utterances around us only when a living voice makes them audible. In every museum of fine art the pulpit and the texts are ready, and the hearers await the speaker.

BENJAMIN IVES GILMAN.

The death is announced, at the age of sixty-eight, of Archip Kuindski, who is perhaps better known in this country as the Russian Turner.

The death is announced of the sculptor Pierre Granet, who won fame by his statue of Alfred de Musset at the Porte Maillot and by his statue of "Figaro."

Adolf Michaelis, professor of archæology at the University of Strasburg, died recently, at the age of seventy-five. His works include an edition of "Taciti Dialogus de Oratoribus," "Ancient Marbles in Great Britain," editions of Sophocles's "Electra" and Apuleius's "Psyche et Cupido," and a reworking of Springer's "Handbook of the History of the Art of Antiquity."

Finance.

"WAITING TWO YEARS."

Mr. John D. Rockefeller having denied the picturesque story of his remark to a woman who had confessed her purpose of building a house, that she would do better to wait two years, the seal of authority is removed from that advice. But the fact that the bit of counsel as reported caused both interest and controversy in the financial community, and that no one dismissed it as absurd on its face, makes it worth a little more discussion. What is it, for instance, that would make the cost of building a house, or the cost of any other undertaking of the sort, cheaper in 1912 than in 1910?

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

The answer naturally will be a general reduction in cost of materials and possibly in cost of labor. People who assert the possibility of such reduction are in the habit of declaring that we have had since 1907 none of the traditional "after-panic readjustment" of wages and prices of commodities; that, on the contrary, prices this year reached a higher average level (9.231 last January, by the *Bradstreet* index number) than the highest level before the panic (which was 9.129, on March 1, 1907), and are only a trifle lower now; the case of wages being similar. People who hold the negative reply that prices and wages have both continued to go higher, after the brief relapse of 1907 and 1908, because demand, in the natural order of the markets, kept running beyond supply; and, more specifically, they argue that increased production of gold in the world at large has forced up prices irrespective of panics and reactions.

This may not end the controversy; the affirmative will perhaps retort that the high American prices prevalent since 1908 were signs of an abnormal situation, without the element of permanency—an allegation based on the strain on credit, which accompanied the advancing prices of 1909, and on the change in our foreign trade from an export to an import surplus, which suggested that our markets were out of touch with markets of other commercial nations. As for the world's gold output, it is sometimes answered that where the annual increase was $30,000,000 or $50,000,000 in such years as 1897 and 1898, and $20,000,000 or $30,000,000 in 1904 and 1905, it ranged around $12,000,000 in 1907 and 1909, and that there has apparently been no further increase whatever thus far in 1910.

Probably the final answer on the other side will be that at any rate gold production has not decreased, and that the strain which lately existed on reserves and credit has been relieved through Stock Exchange liquidation, leaving commodities, as in 1903, to fall back a trifle and then resume their upward movement. These are a few of the opposing considerations which Mr. Rockefeller, had he really said what was reported, would doubtless have set forth to the woman about to build a house.

In one shape or another, the question at issue in that imagined colloquy underlies a very great deal of current financial plans. Whatever may be the controlling cause for the recent continuous rise in prices—whether increased gold output, or extravagance in consumption of commodities, or reduced productivity in natural resources—it is safe to hazard the guess that the average business man would be glad to have the process arrested, long enough at any rate for him to get his bearings. The railways, whose conditions are typical as a rule of conditions prevalent in other industries, stand confessedly in a curious position. It is not alone that while gross receipts are increasing rapidly, working expenses and maintenance of plant are increasing just now in a still more rapid ratio. The question of new capital is even more perplexing. For their larger improvements, railways may raise money in any one of four different ways—by selling new stock, by selling new bonds, by selling notes with one to three years to run, or by borrowing from banks, on collateral of Treasury securities, capital which they expect to repay from the proceeds of future sales of stocks or bonds.

Now, the present position is this: new stocks are hard to sell, because prices on the Stock Exchange, after a period of wild inflation, have had a demoralizing collapse, and new bonds can find a market only on unfavorable terms, because such demands on investment capital have been exceptionally large at the very moment when high average living expenses are curtailing the average investor's savings. As for the "short-time notes," they have achieved much popularity in recent years, because they committed neither lender nor borrower for too long a time when future conditions were difficult to foresee, and because, therefore, a higher interest rate could be allowed than a railway cared to pledge on a long-term bond. But the popularity of this borrowing expedient has not blinded the parties in interest to its dangers. It was the short-term notes which brought the railways to grief in 1873 and 1893, and it was only their good fortune in 1907 that so little of such paper happened to mature in the actual period of panic, when it might not have been possible to redeem or renew it.

Supposing that within the next few years, a general and far-reaching readjustment of the present high prices of commodities were to occur, how would these aspects of the situation be affected? Railways, in common with other corporations, would have less to pay for materials and perhaps for wages. But this would leave another question open—whether the traffic of the railways, with the producers and manufacturers of such materials, would not also be impaired through contraction in the profits of those producers. Such readjustment would infallibly create much hardship. Those who would benefit most by it would be the class which has chiefly suffered by the rise in prices—people with stationary salaries or fixed incomes—whereas those who, like the owners of land or producers of raw materials, have reaped the larger benefit from the recent spectacular rise, would doubtless be the conspicuous sufferers from the fall.

It cannot be said, however, that the signs are pointing to any such thoroughgoing readjustment. What still seems to be the order of the day is an alternation of forward movements leading to sudden overstrain on capital, with resultant liquidation, and backward movements, checked in the end by re-assertion of healthy demand on markets where supplies have increased but little. Mr. Carnegie some years ago put the matter in another way, by saying that under existing conditions both "booms" and "reactions" would be more frequent and more violent, but with reactions less destructive than in the older normal days.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Ainsworth, P. C. The Heart of Happiness. Revell.
Armstrong, H. H. Autobiographic Elements in Latin Inscriptions. Macmillan.
Brainerd, N. Winning the Eagle Prize. Boston: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard. $1.25.
Bishop, E. M. Daily Ways to Health. Huebsch. $1.50 net..
Browne, G. W. Ruel Durkee, Master of Men. Boston: R. G. Badger.
Brooks, A. Dorothy Dainty's Winter. Boston: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard. $1.
Carling, J. R. The Doomed City. Edward J. Clode.
Church, J. W. Deep in Piney Woods. Crowell. $1.20 net.
Cobb, E. L. Optic Views and Impressions of the National Soldiers' Home. South Branch, N. H., D. V. S., near Hampton, Va.: The author.
Connor, R. D. W. Canova's Statue of Washington. Raleigh: North Carolina Historical Com.
Davidson, J. The Man Forbid and Other Essays. Boston: Ball Pub. Co. $1.25 net.
Dixon, R. B. The Chimariko Indians and Language. Berkeley: University of Cal.
Documentary History of American Industrial Society. Vols. vii and viii, Labor Movement 1840-1860. Cleveland: A. H. Clark Co.
Dorset, G. A Successful Wife. Harper. $1.50.
Eggleston, G. C. Westover of Wanalah. Boston: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard. $1.50.
Eltringham, H. African Mimetic Butterflies. Frowde.
Emmet, A. C. Psyche Sleeps and Other Poems. Moffat, Yard. $1.25 net.
Farrar, F. A. Old Greek Nature Stories. Crowell. $1.50 net.
Fillmore, P. H. The Hickory Limb. Lane Co. $50 cents net.
Frank, H. The Tragedy of Hamlet: a Psychological Study. Boston: Sherman, French, $1.50 net.
Gask, L. Folk Tales from Many Lands. Retold. Crowell. $1.50.
Graham, H. The Bolster Book. Duffield.
Gray, J. M. Progress in the Life to Come. Revell.
Hardy's. The Hand of Ethelberta. Harper. $1.25.

Financial.

Letters of Credit

Buy and sell bills of exchange and make cable transfers of money on all foreign points; also make collections, and issue Commercial and Travellers' Credits available in all parts of the world.

International Cheques. Certificates of Deposit.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.
No. 59 Wall Street, New York

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Hewlett, M. Rest Harrow: a Comedy of Resolution. Scribner. $1.50.
Hobson, R. L. Porcelain of All Countries. Stokes. $2.15 net.
Howard, W. L. Start Your Child Right. Revell Co.
Hutton, J. A. The Authority and Person of Our Lord. Revell.
Jenks, T. When America Became a Nation. Crowell. $1.25.
Johnson, B. Rhymes of Home. Crowell. $1 net.
Jones, H. L. The Poetic Plural of Greek Tragedy in the Light of Homeric Usage. Cornell Univ.
Kellerman, I. A Complete Grammar of Esperanto. Heath. $1.25.
Long, H. C., and Percival, J. Common Weeds of the Farm and Garden. Stokes. $2 net.
Madeley, D. F. The Heroic Life and Exploits of Siegfried. Crowell. $1.50.
Maxim, H. The Science of Poetry and the Philosophy of Language. Funk & Wagnalls. $2.50 net.
McPherson, L. G. Transportation in Europe. Holt. $1.50 net.
Miller, J. R. The Master's Friendship. Crowell. 50 cents net.
Morgan, G. C. The Analyzed Bible: the Prophecy of Isaiah. Vols. I and II. Revell. $1 net, each.
Munn, C. C. The Castle Builders. Boston: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard. $1.50.
Myers, G. Beyond the Borderline of Life. Boston: Ball Pub. Co. $1 net.
National Association for the Study and Education of Exceptional Children. Proceedings of the Tenth Anniversary of the Groszmann School. Plainfield, N. J. $1.50.
Odell, F. I. Larry Burke, Freshman. Boston: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard. $1.25.
Olcott, C. S. George Eliot, Scenes and People in Her Novels. Crowell. $2 net.
Old-lore Miscellany of Orkney, Shetland, Caithness and Sutherland. Vol. iii, Part iii. London: Viking Club.
Orczy, Baroness. Petticoat Rule. Doran Co. $1.20 net.
Otis, J. The Wireless Station at Silver Fox Farm. Crowell. $1.50.
Pendleton, F. Tim and Roy in Camp. Boston: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard. $1.50.
Photographic Annual, 1910-11. Sixth ed. Tennant & Ward.
Rhodes, E. M. Good Men and True. Holt.
Rhoades, N. The Other Sylvia. Boston: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard. $1.
Roosevelt, T. African Game Trails. Scribner. $4 net.
Russell, G. W. E. Sketches and Snapshots (England). Duffield.
Sabin, E. L. Range and Trail. Crowell. $1.50.
Sanders, H. A. The Washington Manuscript of Deuteronomy and Joshua (Part 1, The Old Testament Manuscripts in the Freer Collection). Macmillan.
Sparhawk, F. C. Dorothy Brooke's Vacation. Crowell. $1.50.
Stewart, M. A. A Study in Latin Abstract Substantives. Macmillan.
Stilwell, A. E. Confidence or National Suicide. Bankers Pub. Co.
Stimson, H. A. Behind the World and Beyond. Eaton & Mains. $1.25 net.
Strong, J. My Religion in Everyday Life. Baker & Taylor. 50 cents.
Sullivan, M. K. The Trail of a Sourdough. Boston: R. G. Badger. $1.50.
Tearle, C. Rambles with an American. Duffield.
Thomson, J. A. Darwinism and Human Life: The South African Lectures for 1909. Holt.
Thoreau, H. D. Walden. Illustrated. Crowell. $2 net.
Twain, M. Travels in History. Selected by C. N. Kendall for home and school reading. Harper. 50 cents.
Walsh, W. T. The Mirage of the Many. Holt. $1.50.
Wagner's Siegfried. Translated in Poetic Narrative Form by O. Huckel. Crowell. 75 cents net.
Wilson, G. G. Handbook of International Law. St. Paul, Minn.: West Pub. Co. $3.75.
Young, F. E. M. Atonement. Lane Co. $1.50.
Ziv, R. L. The Tree of Modern Life. New York: The author.

Eugene Manlove Rhodes's
Good Men and True

This lively story has been somewhat expanded since its serial appearance in the *Saturday Evening Post* last winter. $1.00 net.

William T. Walsh's
The Mirage of the Many

A prophetic novel delineating the author's ideas, unusual as far as fiction is concerned, of the results of a socialistic régime on the different classes of society. The scene is Chicago in the year 1952. $1.50.

J. A. Thomson's
Darwinism and Human Life

By the Professor of Natural History in the University of Aberdeen, author of "Outlines of Zoölogy," etc. $1.50 net.

L. P. Jack's Mad Shepherds
and Other Human Studies

By the Editor of "The Hibbert Journal." $1.20 net.

Henry Holt & Co. 34 W. 33d St. NEW YORK

MR. OWEN JOHNSON'S
Lawrenceville Stories

The Varmint

"It's a wonder. . . . And the joyful pathos of the last installment choked me all up—it was so true, and generally and specifically bully."—Booth Tarkington.

12mo, 396 pages. Illustrated by Gruger. $1.50.

The Humming Bird

One of the most amusing baseball slang stories ever written. 12mo, illustrated. 50c.

The Prodigious Hickey

Originally published as "The Eternal Boy." The First Lawrenceville Story. 12mo. Illustrated. $1.50.

THE BAKER & TAYLOR CO., NEW YORK

Lake George and Lake Champlain: The War Trail of the Mohawks and the Battleground of France and England in their Contest for the Control of North America

By W. MAX REID,
Author of "The Mohawk Valley," "The Story of Old Fort Johnson," etc.

8vo, with 90 Full-Page Illustrations. **$3.50 net.**

Mr. Reid's new book is devoted to the history and the scenic beauty of a section of the country every inch of which is to him familiar ground. With its history and traditions he is deeply imbued, and to be deeply imbued with such a history and with such traditions is no insignificant acquisition. The author has seized upon the dramatic incidents that form the staple of this history and has combined them in a narrative that moves with unimpeded swiftness.

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS, NEW YORK & LONDON

Library Orders

We have conducted a special department for many years that has been exceptionally successful in handling book orders from

PUBLIC LIBRARIES
SCHOOLS, COLLEGES
***and* UNIVERSITIES**

Our Monthly Bulletin of New Books, with annotations and brief descriptions of each title recorded, is one of the most helpful aids in book selection.

Library Department

A. C. McCLURG & CO.
CHICAGO

JUST READY

"BOHEMIA AND THE ČECHS"

The Geography, History, People, Institutions and Cities of the Austrian Kingdom, Together with Accounts of Moravia and Silesia.

By Prof. WILL S. MONROE
Author of "Turkey and the Turks."

Readers in general, and travel lovers in particular, are certain to enjoy Prof. Monroe's new work, the first descriptive and authentic volume on Bohemia issued in English. *With many illustrations. Cloth, boxed, $3.00.*

Published by

L. C. PAGE & CO.,
53 Beacon St. Boston.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED